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Iraq wants to secure its right

War may resume if Iran searches ships: Saddam

BAGHDAD, Sept 6, (Agencies): Iraqi President Saddam Hussein said today Iraq's eight-year war with Iran could resume if the Iranians searched any Iraqi ships in the Gulf.

"If one Iraqi ship is searched it means war breaks out," Saddam told a conference of Arab information ministers in Baghdad.

"God willing this will not happen."

Saddam said the war, which has claimed at least one million casualties, had not formally ended, despite a UN-mediated ceasefire which went into effect on Aug 20.

Iranian intercepting Iraqi-bound war cargoes in the waterway until a comprehensive peace is signed.

Iran said it stopped and searched the Iraqi merchant ship Khawla which entered the Gulf when the ceasefire took effect on Aug 20 but allowed it to proceed.

Iraq, which sent the ship into the Gulf through the Strait of Hormuz as a test of Iranian intentions, said the Khawla had been harassed by an Iranian helicopter but had not been searched.

Balanced

The Khawla left the Iraqi port of Umm Qasr on Sunday on a second voyage through the Gulf, bound for the Mediterranean.

Navigation

"The Iranian leaders continuously remind us in their statements that the war has not ended," the Iraqi leader said.

Freedom of navigation in the Gulf is one of the main sticking points that have prevented progress at peace talks between Iran and Iraq in Geneva which began on Aug 25.

Iran insists it has the right under international law to con-

Saddam told the Baghdad conference that Iraq wanted to guarantee its rights, which included free navigation in the Gulf for itself and other Arab states.

"The ceasefire should be balanced in the air, on the ground and at sea," he said.

It was not logical that Iran could use its Gulf ports while denying that right to Iraq and



Saddam trying to inspect his ships, Saddam said.

"The Iranians are not masters of the sea... they have sovereignty only over their territory and territorial waters."

"We respect that and the Iranians should respect Arab sovereignty and the freedom of the Arabs, including Iraq, to use their territorial waters," Saddam said.

He added that he hoped the ceasefire "will be a comprehensive and durable peace that will protect the dignity of the Iranians and the Arabs."

But the Iraqi leader threatened a tough response if Iran continued searching Gulf shipping.

"Why do they inspect our ships? We will send our naval fleet to catch their ships one after the other," he said.

Earlier, the vice-chairman of the Iraqi Revolutionary Command Council told the Baghdad conference that Iraq should not expect to win any territorial gains at the Geneva talks.

"Iraq did not fight for eight years to achieve a truce or to offer Iran regional benefits at the expense of any particle of its land," Izzat Ibrahim said.

Suspended

But he said there was a historical opportunity to establish peace. "We call on the Iranian rulers to seize it and co-operate with Iraq to achieve this aim."

In Geneva, UN mediators pursued low-level negotiations and progress was apparently insufficient to merit meeting the foreign ministers of Iran or Iraq.

But as Iranian Ambassador

Sirous Nasserri arrived for fresh talks with UN mediator Jan Eliasson, he discouraged speculation the talks might have to be adjourned.

"It's hard to say right now. We'll have to see," Nasserri said when asked if the talks might be suspended. "They are continuing. There has been a lot of talk about recess but there has been no recess so far."

Negotiations stalled at the outset over details of the ceasefire and a troop withdrawal. But, despite charges by each side of ceasefire violations, Nasserri said: "I don't think the war is going to explode."

Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati had hoped to attend a foreign ministers meeting of the Non-Aligned Movement in Nicosia this week, but Iranian officials said today he had decided against going.

"You may interpret it as you wish, but I'm always for the optimistic interpretation," one Iranian diplomat said.

The two sides have not met directly since Aug 26, one day after the conference began, and

(Continued on Page 4)

Iraq offers amnesty to Kurds

MANAMA, Bahrain, Sept 6, (UPI): Iraq issued a general amnesty for Kurdish rebels today, after the plight of thousands of Kurdish refugees fleeing alleged Iraqi chemical attacks drew expressions of international concern, officials and diplomats said.

The official Baghdad Radio said the ruling Revolutionary Command Council issued the amnesty for all ethnic Kurds involved in anti-government activities.

Gulf-based diplomats said the amnesty comes at a time when Iraq is fighting to gain world sympathy at Geneva peace talks with Iran, and shortly after officials from Western countries, including the United States, expressed concern to the Iraqi government over allegations it used chemical weapons to crush Kurdish insurgents.

Iraq categorically denied the allegations.

Refugees

The official Iraqi statement implied amnesties would be granted to an estimated 10,000 to 15,000 Kurdish guerrilla fighters currently waging a bitter campaign for independence in the rugged hills of Iraq's northernmost province of Kurdistan.

A spokesman for the Kurdish Democratic Party said up to 100,000 Kurdish refugees have fled across the Iraqi border to neighbouring Turkey during the fighting, while nearly 2,000 were killed and 3,000 wounded in fighting since Aug 20.

The statement broadcast over Baghdad Radio excluded rebel leader Jalal Talbani from the amnesty, "for allying with the enemies of Iraq and betraying the country" — an apparent reference to Iranian aid for Kurdish separatists.

The council also pardoned immediately all Kurds jailed or detained in Iraqi prisons for their role in the rebellion against the country," said the radio.

Pardon

The council said all Kurds involved in anti-government activities, whether inside the country or abroad, could benefit from the pardon if they returned to Iraq within 30 days.

Kurdish guerrilla groups armed, financed and advised by Iran have been operating in Iraq's northernmost province of Kurdistan since the eruption of the Iran-Iraq war eight years ago.

There are also large Kurdish minorities in neighbouring Iran and Turkey, where Kurdish guerrilla groups owing allegiance to various parties and political creeds are waging what they describe as a war of independence.

Iran has asked the UN High Commissioner for Refugees to provide aid for Kurdish refugees, a UNHCR official said yesterday in Geneva.

Post-war power struggle in Iran

Khamenei turns down premier's resignation

MANAMA, Bahrain, Sept 6, (Agencies): Iranian President Ali Khamenei blocked today the resignation of Prime Minister Hussein Musavi, in a move diplomats described as the latest, hazy twist in an ongoing power struggle gnawing away at the heart of Iran's ruling clergy.

Musavi, a political ally of President Khamenei and known as a hard-liner opposed to concessions to Iraq in stalled Geneva peace talks, said he wanted to quit because up to eight of his cabinet ministers would likely be rejected by parliament, the official Islamic Republic News Agency said.

IRNA said Khamenei informed Musavi today he was rejecting the premier's resignation.

Control

Musavi, Prime Minister since Oct 1981 and a champion of greater state control over Iran's war-shattered economy, submitted his resignation to Khamenei yesterday. But he offered to remain caretaker premier until a successor was announced.

Iranian spiritual leader Ayatollah Khomeini rebuked Musavi today for offering to resign, saying he should stop quibbling and get on with his job.

"When the people sacrifice their sons for the sake of Islam it is no time for bickering and resigning," Tehran Radio quoted Khomeini as saying in a letter to Musavi.

"Continue your services in the framework of Islam and the constitution from the trench of premiership... It is parliament's legal right to vote for any minister it wants to," the Iranian supreme leader said.

"Since I like you, there are things of which I will notify you when we meet," Khomeini added.

In Baghdad, the leader of an Iranian resistance group described the latest political events in Iran as "a flare-up of unending conflicts within an illegitimate regime."

Mujahedin-e-Khalq leader Massoud Rajavi said in a statement teleaxed to Bahrain that Iran's ruling clergy were "hurting" toward "inevitable disintegration."

Consolidate

But Western diplomats interpreted the move as part of manoeuvring by Iranian strongman Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, Speaker of Parliament and acting military commander, to consolidate his power base as the ailing Khomeini draws closer to death.

In his letter to President Khamenei, Musavi has said that he wishes to resign primarily because he suspects that as many as eight of his cabinet ministers

will not get a vote of confidence from the Majlis, the Iranian parliament, and that he will not be able to function with eight vacant positions in his cabinet," IRNA said.

Musavi, Prime Minister since 1981, said his Planning and Budget Minister, Massoud Zanjani, resigned on Sept 3 and that the future of his energy, construction and trade ministers were in doubt.

He did not identify all of the eight, but they comprise more than one-third of the 21-man cabinet he named on July 21 following parliamentary elections in April and May.

He acknowledged "differences of opinion with regard to domestic and international policies" but said they must not "detract from the need for unity in confronting conspiracies."

The agency said today's session of the Majlis, which was scheduled to vote on the cabinet introduced by Musavi on July 21, was adjourned shortly after it opened because of Musavi's announced resignation.

Rafsanjani drew strong support in parliament after engineering a UN-sponsored truce with Iraq last month, and also received Khomeini's public blessing for halting the carnage while Iran was losing the war.

Recover

"There's no love lost between Rafsanjani on the one hand and political rivals like Musavi and Khamenei on the other," one diplomat said, adding Rafsanjani would allow concessions to Iraq while Iran remains weak to gain time for Tehran to recover.

"Rafsanjani's primary aim is to ensure the survival of the Islamic revolution above all else — even above victory over arch-enemy Iraq," another Gulf-based diplomat said.

"As far as it is possible to tell, it appears Rafsanjani has failed to persuade his rivals of the wisdom of his policy — and therefore he is determined to oust them."

The diplomat said whether Musavi remains in power or not will be one test of Rafsanjani's control of the Iranian political scene.

"If Rafsanjani wins the latest round in Iran's internal power struggle, he's home and dry," the envoy said. "If Musavi stays, then Rafsanjani has yet been unable to consolidate fully his power base among the ruling Iranian clergy — even with Khomeini's support."

In offering his resignation, Musavi said the move would have no effect on the stalled Geneva talks because Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati would continue to serve with "the full support of the system."

Dutch defence minister quits

THE HAGUE, Sept 6, (AP): Dutch Defence Minister Willem van Vliet announced his resignation today after accusations that he had introduced the introduction of a new passport in a previous cabinet post.

"I have asked Her Majesty the Queen (Beatrix) to allow me to resign," Van Vliet told Parliament.

Pakistan cancels Defence Day parades

ISLAMABAD, Sept 6, (AP): Pakistan observed Defence Day with honour guards and prayers today but there were none of the usual parades because of the death of President Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq.

Special prayer services were conducted at military bases and mosques for Zia, US Ambassador Arnold Raphel and 28 others who died in a suspicious plane explosion and crash on Aug 17. Meanwhile, government offices, foreign embassies and businesses were closed.

Zia, who was chief of the Army, used to order up brilliant displays of Pakistan's military might each Sept 6.

Message

"We observe Defence of Pakistan Day in the shadow of the tragedy which the nation and the armed forces have recently undergone," said the new Army Chief, Gen. Aslam Beg, in a written message. "The vacuum created by the sudden departure of shahed (martyr) General Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq and so many of our distinguished colleagues will be hard to fill."

Civilian politicians have praised Beg for the armed forces' restraint in the weeks following the crash.

Unlike Zia, Beg declared he had no taste for politics. He urged the military to support the constitution and protect the nation under civilian rule.

Meanwhile, Zia's political heirs today launched their campaign for November's elections, pledging to keep the opposition from power through the ballot box.

Zia's civilian supporters told a rally in Lahore that they would fight at the polls to defend his legacy.

"Let us stick the spears of the ballot papers into the chests of our opponents," Fida Mohammad Khan, head of the Fida faction of the Pakistan Muslim League, told the audience of tens of thousands.

The Fida faction, led by ministers and provincial government leaders appointed by Zia, is expected to be the main rival to the PPP in the elections on Nov 16.

Secrets law

BEIJING, Sept 6, (UPI): Beijing passed its first state secrets law yesterday stipulating that both foreigners and Chinese may face the death penalty for revealing classified information — a move some lawmakers voiced hopes would help stem leaks to the foreign press.



One man has to push and another has to steer a cycle-rickshaw in flooded Dhaka streets. (Reuters wirephoto)

People drinking floodwater in Bangladesh

Diarrhoea epidemic pushes death toll up

DHAKA, Sept 6, (Reuters): Thousands of people in Dhaka scrambled for meagre supplies of fresh food and water today as a rapidly spreading diarrhoea epidemic pushed the official death toll in the Bangladesh monsoon floods to 650. Unofficial reports put the death toll at more than 1,000.

"We will have to feed the people for two months at least," President Hussain Muhammad Ershad said after a helicopter flight over villages and rice paddies still swamped by floodwaters that cover three-fourths of this nation of 110 million people.

Officials said about 102,000 people were now ill after drinking contaminated water or eating rotten food, 30,000 of them in the capital and its suburbs.

"We are fighting an uphill battle to contain the disease and save those already fallen sick," said Dr Kazi Anwarullah, a Dhaka hospital physician.

miles) west of Dhaka, people stood in chest-deep water as a motorboat carried Ershad past their flooded houses.

He disembarked at a relief camp set up in a government school and handed out 50-lakra notes (worth about 1.55 cents) to people crowding around him. Then he plunged into the muddy flood water that surged past his knees as small boats splashed and paddled around him.

The flood control centre said 12 major rivers were still rising today, but three of the mightiest rivers — the Ganges, Brahmaputra and Meghna — have started receding.

Dhaka Weather Office said today the overall situation would remain critical for at least a week or so.

During a flight to survey the situation today, bright green rice plants poked above the flood level in nearly defined rectangular fields. During a helicopter flight over the same area 24 hours earlier, the paddies were completely submerged.

In the capital, men, women and children queued up at distribution centres in waist-deep floodwater long before officials and volunteers arrived with sacks of rice and containers of drinking water.

But many went away empty-handed as supplies soon ran out, witnesses said.

Officials say at least 25 million people have lost their homes in

(Continued on Page 2)

Arab protest delays Vincennes' departure

MANAMA, Sept 6, (Agencies): US officials abruptly postponed the scheduled pullout of the missile cruiser Vincennes from the Gulf region after at least one Arab government raised last-minute objections to its departure, US military sources said yesterday.

The 9,600-ton cruiser was to have ended its patrol duties with the US joint task force Middle East on Sunday. In reducing the force from 27 to 26 ships, the Vincennes would have represented the first cutback by the United States since the Iraq-Iran ceasefire went into effect last month.

The military sources, insisting on anonymity, said yesterday the Vincennes was remaining on station in the Arabian Sea, possibly for another five days.

Replace

The change of orders was based on diplomatic rather than military considerations, and "came from a much higher level than the Navy in the Gulf," said one source. That source also said the Pentagon decision not to replace the cruiser still stood.

US military and diplomatic sources said they could not identify the Arab state that raised objections to the Vincennes leaving the region, or exactly what those objections were based on.

However, one noted that "the governments in this area are very sensitive to the idea of the United States withdrawing its forces" while the Iraq-Iran peace process remains unsettled.

Treated

The spokesman said two bodies had been recovered from the harbour of Piraeus, five miles (eight km) from Athens, and that at least 10 men are believed dead. The spokesman said 12 workers were rescued and taken to hospitals where they were being treated for burns.

The tanker had arrived yesterday at the Piraeus shipyard in Piraeus for repairs, authority spokesmen said.

Authorities said they did not know the cause of the blast but

Blast rips Greek oil tanker in half, 7 die

ATHENS, Sept 6, (Agencies): An explosion today split a Greek-owned oil tanker into two, killing seven men, injuring 12 more and trapping about 20 others, shipping authorities said. The ship was docked at a Piraeus shipyard.

A Piraeus port authority spokesman said rescue attempts were under way to rescue about 20 workers believed to be trapped inside the sunken tanker.

Piraeus port authority spokesmen said the two halves of the 81,000-ton Angel of Greatness of the Angelikioussis Shipping Company sank in the harbour this morning.

The spokesman said two bodies had been recovered from the harbour of Piraeus, five miles (eight km) from Athens, and that at least 10 men are believed dead. The spokesman said 12 workers were rescued and taken to hospitals where they were being treated for burns.

The tanker had arrived yesterday at the Piraeus shipyard in Piraeus for repairs, authority spokesmen said.

Authorities said they did not know the cause of the blast but

believed it may have resulted when gas fumes inside the vessel were ignited by welding torches.

Merchant Marine Minister Evangelos Yiannopoulos said he ordered the arrest of the ship's skipper and the head of the company that was carrying out the repairs.

Yiannopoulos said that the ship had been certified as free of gas and fumes before entering the docks for repairs.

A police officer who requested anonymity said fragments of what appeared to be five more bodies were found but had not yet been identified.

The explosion shattered windows in stores and offices around Piraeus, an industrial port 16 kilometres (10 miles) west of Athens where several shipyards are located.

"People were tossed all over the place. There were body fragments landing on the deck of another tanker berthed next to this one," said Costas Sakaros, a metalworkers' union official.

He said crew members on the deck of the next-door tanker, the 300,000-ton Norwegian flag Ingres, were blown into the air by the force of the blast.

More than 150 held in West Bank swoop

KALKILYA, West Bank, Sept 6, (Agencies): Israeli troops backed by helicopters swept through the West Bank town of Kalkilya today and rounded up more than 150 Arabs suspected of involvement in a nine-month Palestinian uprising.

Residents said a large Army force entered the town 20 km (12 miles) from Tel Aviv before dawn, announced a curfew through loudspeakers, and carried printed lists of suspects in house-to-house searches.

Security sources said 120 suspects were arrested by dawn and taken manacled and blindfolded

(Continued on Page 2)

INSIDE

International	2,3
Kuwait-Gulf	4
Events	5
Editorials	6
Features	7,8,13
Business	9,12
Stocks	10,11
Classifieds	14
Urdu	15,16
Sports	17,18

ايرانى وزير اعظمى نے استعفى
ديليا
غزاکرات میں حمل دور
کرکے علی کوشش
کوت فرانس سے اسلحہ
خریدے گا
بھارت میں صحافیوں کی
ملک گیر ہڑتال
برما میں سرکاری ملازمین کا
انتقامی استعفی
کروں کے لئے عام
محافل کا سرکاری اعلان
ادبیات اور تعلیمات

WEATHER

FAIR summer weather. Temperature will be around normal with light to moderate southeasterly wind.
State of sea: slight
High water: 7:00 am
Low water: 4:00 pm
Sunrise: 5:29 am
Sunset: 6:03 pm
Maximum temperature recorded:
Kuwait: 44°C (111°F)
Ahmed: 41°C (106°F)
Falka: 40°C (104°F)
Maximum temperature expected:
Kuwait: 43°C (109°F)
Ahmed: 40°C (104°F)
Falka: 39°C (102°F)
Maximum humidity recorded:
Kuwait: 36 per cent
Ahmed: 30 per cent
Falka: 25 per cent
Maximum humidity expected:
Kuwait: 28 per cent
Ahmed: 21 per cent
Falka: 14 per cent

ARAB TIMES
Grand Bingo
TODAY is the last
day for sending
entries. Numbers
will be drawn from
Sept. 10.

INTERNATIONAL

I acted on orders: Hammadi

FRANKFURT, West Germany, Sept. 6. (Reuters): Confessed Lebanese hijacker Mohammed Ali Hammadi told a court today he acted on orders and was not involved in planning the seizure of a Trans World Airlines (TWA) airliner three years ago.

During cross-examination on his first day back in court after a month-long recess, Hammadi repeated earlier denials that he shot dead US Navy diver Robert Stethem, a passenger on the TWA plane hijacked to Beirut in June 1985.

Charge

Hammadi confessed in court on Aug. 9 he took part in the seizure but said his senior accomplice, named on the charge sheet as Izzat-Dine, killed Stethem. Hammadi had earlier admitted smuggling explosives into West Germany.

"We were told clearly what was allowed and what was forbidden. No more," he told the court today in Frankfurt's Preungesheim prison where he has been held since his arrest in January 1987.

"I didn't threaten anyone with death," Hammadi added.

Hammadi said he and "the man responsible" (for Stethem's killing) had used two hand grenades and one pistol, brought on board the aircraft by his accomplice.

Cosmonauts marooned in space on faulty craft

MOSCOW, Sept. 6. (Reuters): Afghanistan's first cosmonaut was marooned in space with a Soviet crewmate today after a fault on their spacecraft stopped them returning to earth.

A spokesman for the Soviet space agency Glavkosmos said the Soyuz TM-5 spacecraft carrying veteran cosmonaut Vladimir Lyakhov and Afghan pilot Abdul Ahad Mohmand would attempt a landing tomorrow, a day late.

Choose

The spokesman, Sergei Zagorodny, denied reports that the Soyuz had veered off course and might have trouble landing. He said Glavkosmos had been in radio contact with the cosmonauts and had full confidence they would be able to land.

"The spacecraft is on course," Zagorodny told Reuters. "We spoke with the cosmonauts, and they're okay."

He said the craft's automatic landing programme had switched off prematurely after the cosmonauts left the Mir orbiting station at 2255 GMT yesterday, undocked and began heading back to earth for a scheduled landing at 0200 GMT today.

"The cosmonauts must now choose another descent path," the official said. He said they could either reprogramme the landing or descend using manual controls to a site in Kazakhstan, Central Asia. The landing is now set for 0100 GMT tomorrow.

Lyakhov, 47, and Mohmand, 29, blasted off from the Baikonur launch pad in Central Asia on Aug. 29 for a mission hailed by Moscow and Kabul as marking their co-operation in peace after their nine-year collaboration in the Afghan war.

The two cosmonauts and Soviet physician Valery Polyakov docked with Mir on

Aug. 31. They were shown on Soviet television yesterday announcing completion of six days of research.

Polyakov, 46, stayed on Mir to monitor the health of cosmonauts Vladimir Titov and Musa Manarov, who were launched last Dec. 21 and are due to set a new space endurance record by remaining a full year.

Mission

The research by the Soviet-Afghan mission included space photography of remote regions of Afghanistan to detect mineral and water resources.

The Soviet Union recently has been emphasising future economic co-operation with Kabul.

The official news agency Tass said the cosmonauts also took part in medical research and completed a study for Australia, begun in June, to produce monoclonal antibodies of an influenza virus antigen in zero-gravity.

Bomb blast kills five in Colombo

COLOMBO, Sept. 6. (Reuters): At least five people were killed and about 40 injured when a parcel bomb exploded in a restaurant in the Sri Lankan capital today, police said.

The blast came minutes after the Palace Hotel restaurant near Colombo's main railway station received a threatening letter sig-

ned by a Marxist rebel group, employees said.

Among the dead was the restaurant manager who was about to throw the parcel into the street when it exploded, they said.

They said the letter, signed by the People's Liberation Front, ordered the restaurant to close in protest at the death in police cus-

tody of lawyer Wijedasa Liyanarachchi.

The Sri Lankan High Court is to hold an inquiry into the death of Liyanarachchi, who was detained for nine days as a suspected front member.

Police declined to speculate who was responsible for the restaurant bombing.

Labour Day marked by protests against pollution

NEW YORK, Sept. 6. (AP): A summer marred by fouled beaches, drought and sweltering heat came to its unofficial Labour Day finale with frustrated beachgoers demonstrating against pollution, and a nip in the air over much of the nation.

Millions of Americans attended parades, foods fests and political rallies yesterday. And though labour seems to have little to do with Labour Day 106 years after the holiday's inauguration in honour of workers, some people were even on the job.

In southern California, a third day of sizzling heat over 100 degrees drove an estimated one million people to beaches.

"It's pretty much a towel-to-towel beach gridlock out there by the water," said Malibu lifeguard Bill Barker, estimating that more than 200,000 sunbathers hit the beach.

Temperature

But east of the upper Mississippi valley, afternoon temperatures remained below 70 degrees Fahrenheit (21 Celsius).

The city-owned wave pool in Nashville, Tennessee, drew only about 30 people as the temperature rose to the high 60s. The normal Labour Day crowd is 1,000.

A human chain of about 1,000 people stretched across two Long Island, New York, beaches, singing "America the beautiful" and calling for an end to ocean dumping. Medical waste and other debris has washed ashore this summer from the Great Lakes to the Gulf of Mexico, ruining vacations for hundreds of thousands of people.

In Baltimore, Archbishop William Borders honoured workers with the blessing of the tools at the Cathedral of Mary Our Queen. Rank-and-file members of unions placed the tools of their trades at the altar.



Undelivered mail at Mount Pleasant sorting office in central London, one of the 43 centres closed, due to walk-outs by postal workers. (Reuters wirephoto)

Mail strike escalates

UK postal service nearly paralyzed

LONDON, Sept. 6. (AP): Britain's postal service was nearly paralyzed today as thousands of postal workers refused to sort a backlog of 100 million letters and parcels.

Exploratory talks between the Royal Mail and the main postal union continued for a second day but failed to prevent the strikes from closing 60 of the nation's 80 major sorting offices.

A Royal Mail spokesman, who was not named in keeping with British custom, could not say exactly how many workers were on strike. He said, however, that it was "definitely more" than the 48,000 striking yesterday.

The postal system employs 180,000 workers, but the dispute

over regional pay bonuses and the use of temporary workers involves only the Union of Communications Workers which represents 140,000 staff who sort and deliver mail.

The post office said international mail services were still suspended, although 15 million pieces of domestic mail were delivered yesterday compared with the usual average of 51 million pieces. It estimated 100 million pieces of mail were backed up.

Worst hit by the strikes were London, northwest England, much of Scotland and South Wales, it said.

Royal Mail said the dispute was causing "major problems," but it was optimistic about talks being held to determine whether

formal negotiations could resume.

"We think a great deal of the disruption is because of misunderstandings at local levels and we hope that with exploratory talks taking place, staff will now return to work," said a spokesman.

The union also expressed hope progress would be made at the talks, but accused Royal Mail of taking "provocative" actions such as asking workers to cross picket lines to clear backlogs at post offices where they were not normally assigned.

"We can only be hopeful at the moment," said union spokesman Jean Jacques. "But while the talks are going on we feel very sad that the post office is adopting provocative measures."

Fire at nudist camp sends 300 fleeing

DEVORE, California, Sept. 6. (AP): Three hundred people left their clothes behind as they fled a nudist camp when a propane gas tank exploded, igniting a fire that injured two people and damaged several buildings, authorities said.

Residents of the tree house nudist camp were told to leave the camp yesterday afternoon, said San Bernardino county fire dispatcher Martha Pfommer.

One naked woman flagged down a fire truck and directed it to the blaze.

"It gave them pause at first," Ms. Pfommer said of the firefighters who answered the call. "They haven't been to a fire like that in recent memory."

About 150 of those who fled were permanent residents of the 53-acre (21-hectare) ranch, located in a rural area about 50 miles (80 kilometres) east of downtown Los Angeles. The other 150 were Labour Day visitors, she said.

Rocco Lollo, whose age was not available, suffered burns over 50 per cent of his body and was treated at a hospital, said fire department spokeswoman Lesley Dale. An unidentified woman suffered minor injuries, Ms. Dale said.

The fire started in some bush and spread to three acres (1.2 hectares) before it was contained in about 1-1/2 hours, fire officials said.

Two homes were destroyed and three were damaged. Seven outside structures were destroyed as were four vehicles. Damage was estimated at \$250,000, said Ms. Dale.

Protest against defamation bill

Indian journalists strike

NEW DELHI, Sept. 6. (AP): Thousands of journalists across India went on strike today to protest a proposed new defamation law they say aims to curtail press freedom.

All but one of New Delhi's 17 dailies carried front-page notices announcing "they would not publish tomorrow. The two national news agencies, the Press Trust of India and the United News of India, stopped working at 3 am (2130 GMT Monday) and said they would resume after the 24-hour strike.

The proposed Defamation Act expands the concept of defamation and negates the presumption of innocence of journalists or others making disclosures. Newspapers branded it "draconian," "fascist," and "undemocratic."

Punishment The legislation would allow punishment of up to two years in prison for first offenders and up to five years for subsequent convictions. It shifts the burden of proof from plaintiff to journalists and calls for speedy trials, something not stipulated for murder, treason or rape trials.

Professional organisations and the political opposition called the bill censorship in disguise, an attempt by Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi to muzzle the press following reports that top government officials accepted millions of dollars in kickbacks from defence purchases.

"The suspension of publication is an extreme step," the anti-government Indian Express said

in an editorial. But it said the strike "is bound to be just one in a long struggle against a cabal which has lost its head."

Even the normally pro-government Hindustan Times newspaper said it supported the strike. "It will be honourable for the government to admit its mistake and rectify it," it said in an editorial.

The Lok Sabha, the lower house of Parliament, approved the Defamation Act on Aug. 30.

Delayed The Rajya Sabha, the upper house, was supposed to take up the bill yesterday, but Rajiv delayed consideration and appointed a committee of seven cabinet ministers to discuss the matter with journalists.

The bill must be passed by both houses and then signed by President Ramaswamy Venkataraman before becoming law. Rajiv's move to delay consideration on the bill "does not fully meet the purport of the objections to and the grave apprehensions about this draconian bill," said the leftist Patriot newspaper.

But the pro-government National Herald, the only New Delhi newspaper which worked today, said: "The government has shown it has an open mind and that it does not stand on prestige. It is now for all of us to display a constructive approach so that the measure is discussed... without any kind of acrimony."

More than 150 held in W. Bank swoop

(Continued from Page 1)

to a schoolyard for interrogation by Shin Bet secret police agents. The raid was expected to last a further 24 hours. There was no resistance.

The Army diverted all civilian traffic around the town of 50,000 residents, just across Israel's pre-1967 border with the West Bank. Foreign journalists were turned back at the entrance to Kalkiya and telephone lines were cut.

Traffic

Central command chief, General Amram Mitzna, told Israel Radio he ordered the raid because anti-Israeli violence in the area had reached an unacceptable level.

"Kalkiya sits on a very important road junction, a great deal of traffic and a large number of (Israeli) citizens pass through and the situation had really become intolerable," he said.

As he spoke troops could be heard in the background ordering householders to open their doors and a soldier said over walkie-talkie: "Reporting number 152 arrested, I repeat, number 152 arrested."

Mitzna said the operation, involving a battalion of about 100 paratroopers, Shin Bet

agents and police, would reduce violence in Kalkiya but could not eradicate it altogether.

Most of those arrested were suspected members of the outlawed nationalist youth movement, Shabiba, with a minority of Islamic resistance militants, the sources said.

They were believed to be involved in organising popular committees that enforced strikes, organised street protests and ran a form of alternative local government.

Security sources said raids on other towns were likely to follow. About 2,500 Palestinians are already held without trial and several thousand others are serving prison sentences.

In Jerusalem, police swooped on the Arab neighbourhood of Silwan and the Shuafat Palestinian refugee camp before dawn and arrested at least 13 Arabs suspected of involvement in unrest, police spokesman Rafi Levy said.

The Army, meanwhile, issued orders barring troops from hurling tear gas into enclosed spaces following an Israeli medical investigation last May showing the practice endangers human lives.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Gibraltar inquest

GIBRALTAR, Sept. 6. (Reuters): A lawyer for British commandos who shot dead three unarmed Irish nationalist guerrillas in Gibraltar told a coroner today the soldiers planned to give evidence at the inquest.

"Soldiers 'A to Z' would like to give evidence before a Gibraltar jury," lawyer Michael Hucker told the coroner's court without further identifying the seven.

"They have come here specifically to do that," Hucker said. He did not disclose their exact whereabouts.

Jazz players

MOSCOW, Sept. 6. (Reuters): Two surviving members of a Soviet family of jazz musicians who hijacked a plane in an attempt to flee to the West went on trial today, court officials said.

The trial of Olga and Igor Ovchinnikov, of the famed "Seven Simeons" family jazz band, was being held at the airport in the Siberian hometown of Ekibastu where the hijacked flight originated.

They face charges of terrorism, armed hijacking and attempting to cross the border illegally in the March 8 incident in which nine people were shot dead.

Leipzig march

BERLIN, Sept. 6. (UPI): About 200 East Germans demonstrated in Leipzig last night for the right to move to West Germany. West German press reports said today.

In a heavy rain the demonstrators marched through the centre of the city to the Markt Platz (market square) where police in civilian clothes halted an attempt to form a human chain. West German newspaper reported from Leipzig in dispatches attributed to witnesses.

The witnesses said they observed no arrests.

Tourists stranded

ZIHUATENEJO, Mexico, Sept. 6. (AP): Washed-out roads and damaged bridges have isolated sections of Mexico's southwestern coast, and authorities asked airlines not to fly more tourists into the airport serving this Pacific resort.

Thousands of tourists were stranded in luxury hotels and densely short of power and water. Airlines were asked to leave ticket counters or sleeping along side luggage at the airport.

\$54m jackpot

LONGWOOD, Florida, Sept. 6. (AP): Lottery officials were checking their calculations for a record \$54 million Lotto jackpot and a report that a school janitor has the only winning ticket.

Lottery officials know the ticket with the correct series of six numbers was sold in the central Florida community of Longwood.

But 280 miles (450 kilometres) away, Liberty county sheriff Harrell Revell said last night that Bristol resident Charles Hill has offered his ticket as the winner.

Activists detained

MOSCOW, Sept. 6. (AP): At least 100 members of a new paramilitary police unit, some armed with clubs, stopped a demonstration by political activists yesterday and took some protesters away.

The demonstration was on the 70th anniversary of the "Red Terror," the Bolshevik campaign against political opponents. The demonstration in downtown Pushkin Square was called by the Democratic Union, an unofficial political group.

Zeffirelli film

VENICE, Italy, Sept. 6. (Reuters): Boos and whistles greeted the Venice premiere of Italian director Franco Zeffirelli's film about musician Arturo Toscanini, which features Elizabeth Taylor in her first cinema role for seven years.

Diarrhoea epidemic pushes...

(Continued from Page 1)

the floods, with about 10 million of them completely isolated in remote areas.

Thousands of families huddling on river bankments, clinging to their submerged homes face death from starvation, disease or snakebite.

Worse Bangladesh Air Force helicopters and four from India are ferrying relief goods to the worst-hit areas.

Information Minister Mahbubur Rahman said relief distribution would improve when four helicopters promised by Saudi Arabia and two from Iran arrived.

Kuwait and Saudi Arabia will start sending relief supplies as soon as Dhaka airport, closed by floods since Friday, reopens, he told the official BSS news agency.

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GCE/GCSE

Meeting first of its kind in Tunisia

Ben Ali holds talks with opposition

TUNIS, Sept. 6, (Reuters): President Zine Al Abidine Ben Ali, fulfilling a pledge to give the opposition a role in Tunisian politics, began unprecedented consultations today with politicians ranging from communists to Islamic fundamentalists.

The meeting at Ben Ali's palace in Carthage is the first of its kind in Tunisia since independence from France in 1956.

Aim

Habib Bourguiba, removed from power in November last year after more than three decades of unchallenged rule, tolerated opposition groups but disdained to consult them.

The aim of the Carthage meeting is to draft a "national pact" setting guidelines for the pluralist political and economic system Ben Ali says he wants to substitute for Bourguiba's centralised and highly personalised system.

Among the participants is

lawyer Nouredine Bhiri, representing Islamic Tendency Movement (MTI) leader Rashid Ghannouchi, whose trial and threatened execution for treason last year helped precipitate the fall of the former president.

This is a significant change of fortunes for the Islamic movement, which in Bourguiba's last years bore the brunt of a crackdown on all opposition groups.

Tact

Ghannouchi himself has not been invited, however, apparently because Ben Ali wanted only people without criminal records, and the MTI remains illegal under a new law banning political parties based on religion, race or language.

MTI members, however, said they saw the invitation as tacit recognition and speculation persists that Ben Ali is seeking a formula to let the fundamentalists operate more freely.

The other participants are

from Tunisia's three recognised opposition parties — the Democratic Socialist Movement (MDS), the Tunisian Communist Party and the Popular Unity Party — and two other parties which are seeking recognition — the leftist Progressive Socialist Grouping of lawyer Nejib Ech-Chabbi and the Social Liberal Party of Mounir Beji.

Ben Ali and his aides will represent the ruling Constitutional Democratic Assembly, which in coalition with trade unionists and other national organisations holds all 125 seats in the National Assembly.

Among them, these seven groups cover every significant strand of political opinion in the country.

The President announced the national pact idea last April and has said he hopes it will be ready for publication on Nov 7, the first anniversary of Bourguiba's removal.

In a letter to his guests, Ben Ali

said the pact should "define the contours of the society to which we aspire."

Bhiri said the MTI would like to see the pact emphasise Tunisia's Arab and Muslim identity, in contrast with the semi-European identity Bourguiba tried to impose.

Ben Ali has already taken symbolic steps in this direction, instructing the state-run radio and television to broadcast the Muslim call to prayer and reverting to the traditional method of fixing the end of the fasting month of Ramadan.

Communists

The left-of-centre Democratic Socialist Movement and the communists have said they will insist the pact emphasise the principles of pluralism and democracy.

An MDS statement added: "The pact should enshrine pluralism, and not erase it under cover of pluralism through unanimity."



Palestinian guerrillas taking part in a military show to mark the graduation of 450 fighters.

450 radical Palestinian guerrillas graduate

DAMASCUS, Sept. 6, (Reuters): A radical Palestinian group graduated 450 guerrilla fighters yesterday and pledged to battle on to restore rights of the Palestinians.

More than 1,500 people including Syrian and Palestinian leaders attended the graduation ceremony organised by the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command (PFLP-GC) at a military camp on the outskirts of Damascus.

They watched young fighters in military uniform performing hand-to-hand fighting exercises. The guerrillas also took part in a military exercise using live ammunition, attacking both fixed and moving targets.

"The fighters executed their mission perfectly and scored accurate and direct hits on their targets," a PFLP-GC military spokesman said after the exercise.

He said the 450 recruits had completed a six-month military training course, split into sections for youths and for regular fighters. He did not disclose the numbers in each group.

PFLP-GC deputy leader Talal Naji told the crowd that his group would continue the military struggle to defeat "the Zionist-imperialist enemy."

The continuation of fighting is the basis for regaining the national rights of the Palestinian people, liberating our land and achieving a just and comprehensive peace in the area," he said.

Turkey, Greece unable to tackle major disputes

ANKARA, Sept. 6, (AP): Turkish and Greek negotiators, holding their second meeting since May, have decided not to tackle major political disputes because their differences are too large, Turkish Foreign Minister Mesut Yilmaz said today.

Yilmaz is heading the Turkish part of a political committee set up after the premiers of Turkey and Greece agreed in January to hold talks on longstanding disputes between the two countries.

The reconciliation was dubbed the "Davos understanding" after the Swiss resort where Greece's Andreas Papandreu and Turkey's Turgut Ozal met.

The Davos summit was held after Greece and Turkey came to the brink of war in March 1987 over oil exploration rights in the Aegean Sea.

Yilmaz told reporters at a news conference today that he and his Greek counterpart Carolos Papoulias had decided to work on confidence building measures instead during the four-day meeting.

Khaddafi challenges US to prove terrorism charges

TRIPOLI, Libya, Sept. 6, (Agencies): Libyan leader Moammar Khaddafi has challenged the United States to prove accusations he sponsors terrorism and said he expects relations with Washington to improve under the next administration.

Khaddafi said in an interview with the Associated Press that he would like to visit the United States "if things were different" and that Libya remains a close friend of the Soviet Union despite improved US-Soviet relations.

Khaddafi said Americans who believe US President Reagan's charge that he sponsors terrorism are "very simple people, ignorant people."

Personal

"I challenge everyone in the world to give evidence" that Libya backs terrorism, he said.

Reagan accused Khaddafi of sponsoring the December 1985 attacks that left 20 people dead at airports in Rome and Vienna.

US warplanes bombed Libya

for its alleged role in the April 5 bombing of a West German nightclub in which two US soldiers and a Turkish woman were killed.

A July 11 terrorist attack that killed nine people on a Greek cruise ship was linked to Abu Nidal, who is believed to travel frequently to Libya.

"Of course, we are against imperialism, racism and Zionism," said Khaddafi. "We are not wrong, we are right to defend our interests."

Moved

Khaddafi told the Washington Post that whoever was elected US President in November would be less hostile toward Libya than he said Reagan has been.

"I feel Reagan himself has something against me as a person," Khaddafi said. "He sacrificed the peace of the world for his personality... He is mad. I don't think any new President, (George) Bush or (Michael)

Dukakis, will have such foolish policies."

Meanwhile, Libya has moved all but two of its general people's committees (government ministries) from Tripoli as part of a radical plan to decentralise the country, officials say.

The Libyan capital, crowded by local standards, now dominates political and economic life in the vast North African state, but it has come under fire for draining resources from the rest of the country.

Khaddafi said last year that Tripoli's population should be cut from one million to around 100,000, a number which farms in the immediate region could support. Uprooting the ministries may be a step towards the goal.

One Western diplomat said he thought the economics committee had moved to the port of Benghazi, 400 miles (650 km) to the east.

Another said that, after much effort, he located the seat of the health committee in the oasis of



Khaddafi, expects Al Jufra, deep in the desert to the southeast.

But information committee officials said all but three of the committees had moved to the coastal city of Sirte, 250 miles (400 km) east of Tripoli and right in the centre of Libya's three historic regions — Tripolitania in the west, Cyrenaica in the east and Fezzan in the south.

Information and foreign liaison (foreign affairs) remain in Tripoli, site of the main international airport. Much industry has gone 120 miles (190 km) east along the coast to Misratah, where there is a giant steel mill.

Aquino hopes Marcos will return stolen fortune

MANILA, Sept. 6, (UPI): President Corason Aquino today wished ousted ruler Ferdinand Marcos a happy birthday in advance and said she was praying God would give him the wisdom to return the fortune he stole during his 20-year rule.

In a brief news conference, Aquino also said while she was standing by her previous position that she would allow Marcos to return from exile in Hawaii if the courts ordered it, she would exhaust legal resources to stop the issuance of such a directive.

"Definitely, I think the government should be allowed to present its side on whether to let Marcos return or not," Aquino said.

Marcos, who fled to Honolulu following the February 1986 revolution, is facing charges he illegally amassed up to \$10 billion.

The former president will turn 71 on Sunday.

A big party is being prepared in the former president's northern hometown of Batang in Ilocos Norte province, where Marcos "loyalists" plan to bake a birthday cake the size of a basketball court.

Aquino said the government was preparing against the possibility that Marcos would return unannounced, including the upcoming "big bash" in Batang.

"I would like to wish Marcos a happy birthday. I would like to pray that God will give him the wisdom and understanding to think about the interest of the Filipino people and hopefully to return whatever he illegally acquired," Aquino said.

"That would be the best way he will be able to help our people."

"In the matter of wishing (Marcos) for a longer life," Aquino said, "I leave the matter of one's length of life to the Almighty."

Non-Aligned Movement faces crisis of confidence

NICOSIA, Sept. 6, (Reuters): The Non-Aligned Movement faces a new crisis of confidence, with senior delegates meeting here sharply divided over Kampuchea and Afghanistan, conference sources said today.

"It's a matter of deciding whether the Non-Aligned Movement wants to play an effective role, or remain a public relations exercise," said one Southeast Asian delegate.

More than 400 delegates from nearly 100 member-states were debating for a second day a draft final document, to be adopted by their foreign ministers due to meet here tomorrow.

Disagreement quickly emerged behind the scenes over the issues of Kampuchea, and Afghanistan, two Asian states torn by internal dissent and occupied by foreign troops.

Several delegates suggested

Peres opens election campaign with pledge to work for peace

TEL AVIV, Sept. 6, (UPI): Proclaiming Israel's Labour Party as the only political force able to make a peace breakthrough, centre-left politicians opened their election campaign by supporting a withdrawal from the Gaza Strip and heavily populated Arab areas.

Labour politicians also played on their party's traditional platform on encouraging a pioneering spirit and keeping a strong workers' federation. More than 2,000 people attended yesterday's 2 1/2-hour rally.

Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, Labour's leader, said the right-wing Likud Bloc did not want peace and had led the nation into the Lebanon war in 1982.

"The nation, when it goes to the polls, will have to choose between the Likud or a road that is going to a breakthrough, between an Israel dragging along or an Israel moving forward peace," Peres said at the rally that officially began the Labour election campaign.

Caravan

Likud led by Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, began its campaign today with a day-long caravan through the occupied West Bank and Israel and a rally in occupied Jerusalem.

Likud rules Israel in a coalition with the Labour alignment, which held the prime minister's office for the first half of the government's four-year term.

As the election campaign got under way, Likud and Labour were running even in the polls, but a large bloc of voters who will determine the outcome remain undecided, pollsters said yesterday.

Polls indicate peace, national security and economics are uppermost in voters' minds. Both parties hope to find the winning margin in the large number

Burmese regime silent on opposition ultimatum

RANGOON, Sept. 6, (Reuters): Rangoon was silent this morning when the time came for the regular government radio broadcast as all Burma listened for President Maung Maung's response to an opposition ultimatum that he step down.

No word of the government's position was broadcast.

Aung San Suu Kyi and General Tin Oo, emerging leaders of the opposition, yesterday threw their weight behind a student ultimatum that the Burma Socialist Programme Party government resign by tomorrow night.

A massive demonstration is set for Thursday that will mark the beginning of a nationwide general strike that the opposition vows will not end until an interim government is formed to lead the country back to democracy.

Guard

Radio Rangoon, virtually the last state organ still in the hands of the government, is under heavy military guard.

"Driving past last night it was absolutely thick with fixed bayonets although there were no demonstrations outside and no apparent threat to the building," a Western diplomat said today.

Tin Oo, a former defence minister, said that the opposition did not want to clash with the military over control of the radio station's building.

"Apparently every single room in the building, even the ladies' toilet, has an armed soldier in it," the diplomat said.

Many of the station's employees have joined anti-government strikes.

"Quite a lot of the staff are refusing to broadcast under duress so you are seeing new faces there who are presumably non-experienced broadcasters who are being put in to replace them," the diplomat said.

"I personally believe that the government no longer exists," opposition leader Aung Gyi, once the right-hand man of long-time leader Ne Win, told the British Broadcasting Corporation.

Ultimatum

Word of the ultimatum was spread through the capital in the government's own newspapers, which for decades had carried only official announcements.

"7 Sept 8 pm ultimatum announcement general strike threatened," bannered the Working Peoples Daily.

It and other newspapers were filled with reports of resignations from the Burma Socialist



Rangoon residents wave Burmese flags upside down as a mark of protest against the government.

Programme Party. Nearly 200 staff members of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs have resigned from the party, the press reported today.

Opposition leaders spent the day organising Thursday's demonstration and speaking at rallies.

Anti-government protests erupted in several areas of the city, but not on the scale of the massive outpourings of recent weeks. One hundred thousand people marched yesterday.

President Maung Maung has pleaded for patience until the party can hold an emergency congress on Sept 12.

He is the third man to head the one-party state since July, when Ne Win, who took power in a 1962 coup, stepped down because of mounting protests.

Murders

Murders and looting have been reported in several areas of the city as students and monks try to enforce public order in the absence of police.

An eyewitness told a diplomat that a group of students and monks in the south Okkalapa district were lured into an ambush and butchered. Men seized by crowds and blamed for the crime were tortured and slain.

The witness said one of the tortured men confessed he had

been paid to create mayhem.

"That sounds very, very ugly and ominous," the diplomat said. "It looks like the beginning of a real breakdown in public order."

Reinforce

Soldiers continued to reinforce defensive positions at the Ministry of Defence, the radio station, the main railway bridge, the residential district of the ruling elite and at various small command posts on the outskirts of the city.

"There is a lot of trench digging going on," another Western diplomat said.

Residents said the railway was not working and there were few cars on the streets because there was no petrol. All flights in and out of Rangoon airport were cancelled, telephone services to the interior of the country were down and there was no rice in the marketplace.

Legendary military heroes of Burma's independence struggle, linked to Ne Win by a 47-year-old blood oath, today publicly abandoned him to side with an uprising against the system he created.

Bo Ye Htut and eight other survivors of the "30 Comrades" who founded the Burmese Army and wrested independence from Britain called on soldiers to back the uprising.

Chinese can have more than one child

BEIJING, Sept. 6, (Reuters): China's peasants are allowed to have more than one child if the first is a daughter under a policy partly intended to stop the killing of baby girls, Family Planning Minister Peng Peiyun said today.

"Abandonment and drowning of baby girls has not completely disappeared in China. The reason why we practise this policy is to decrease this," Peng said.

"In the countryside, peasants always want a boy. If they have got a daughter but still have a chance to have another baby, this helps stop them abandoning baby girls," she said.

Peng, appointed head of the state family planning commission in January, said most rural areas had adopted a policy of allowing women who bear daughters to try for a boy after a gap of a few years.

Policy

"We had this policy for a long time but we did not speak publicly about it very often. But in fact we did practise it," she said.

A Western population expert in Peking said Peng's statement was the clearest admission so far that Peking had gradually abandoned its unpopular one-child policy over most of rural China since 1984.

China's population is the biggest in the world and reached 1.08 billion at the end of 1987. About 22 million children were born last year.

China has about one-fifth of the world's population but only about seven per cent of its arable land.

Carlucci tackles missile issue in Peking

BEIJING, Sept. 6, (Reuters): US Defence Secretary Frank Carlucci told Chinese leaders today that Washington was concerned at China's sales of missiles to the Middle East, a senior US official said.

"We expressed our concern at the transfer of missile technology to Third World countries," the Defence Department official told reporters after Carlucci's talks with Defence Minister Qin Jiwei.

"This is a very sensitive area," he added.

Diplomats said Washington was strongly opposed to China's supply of anti-ship Silkworm missiles to Iran and its sale of powerful, medium-range mis-

siles to Saudi Arabia.

The US official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said Washington recognised that China was a sovereign country and had a right to an overseas arms programme.

"But missiles fit a special category," he said.

Qin did not reply to the missiles issue because the two men ran out of time, the official added.

Carlucci also discussed his recent visit to the Soviet Union, the US official said.

Soviet Union.

"China is a developing country and even in the future it will not sell armaments in large quantities," Qin said.

China does not disclose the value of its arms exports but Western diplomats estimated that they earned Peking about \$2 billion last year.

China acknowledges selling missiles to Saudi Arabia but denies selling Silkworm missiles to Iran. It has said it took measures to prevent them reaching Tehran through other channels.

Qin said today he believed the Silkworm issue could be solved "through consultations."

Carlucci arrived in Peking yesterday for a six-day visit.

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1,500 fires reported in Kuwait each year

ABOUT 1,500 fires are reported in Kuwait every year, according to Brigadier Ahmad Al Abdul Razzak, director of the public fire administration.

He added that the fires are caused by negligence, inadequate safety precautions and the high temperatures in summer. Damage and loss of property is considerable, but the number of people killed or injured is relatively small, he said.

Al Abdul Razzak pointed out that the administration uses the latest fire-fighting equipment which has been designed with Kuwait's buildings and climate in mind.

He emphasised that citizens should help firemen perform their duties effectively and check their own fire extinguishers in houses and cars from time to time.

He also stressed the need for regular maintenance of shopping and office complexes as well as inspections to make sure that fire regulations are being followed.

Al Abdul Razzak further mentioned that the state insures firemen against injury in the course of their duty.

Need to help achieve peace stressed

DANISH Foreign Affairs Minister Uffe Ellemann-Jensen said in a statement published here yesterday that HH the Amir had impressed upon him the need for the world community to help Iraq and Iran achieve peace.

Speaking to Al Seyassah, Jensen expressed his admiration for the way Kuwait had confronted terrorism.

Denmark and Kuwait signed an agreement on Monday regarding the establishment of a joint framework to boost economic co-operation in rebuilding Iraq and Iran.

The Danish official supported the idea of holding an international peace conference to resolve the Palestinian question, adding that the uprising in the occupied lands has attracted international attention especially concerning Israeli violations of international law.

Jensen left here Monday for Qatar, continuing a tour of the region.

Maid sentenced for infanticide

A MAID who murdered her newborn baby boy to conceal evidence of an extra-marital relationship has been sentenced to two years' imprisonment and subsequent deportation by the Criminal Court.

The woman confessed to her employer that she had given birth to the child, but claimed that it had been born dead and then put the baby in a garbage bag.

However, medical examination of the infant showed that it had been suffocated.

During interrogation, the maid said she had put a piece of cloth in the child's mouth to prevent its cries being heard by her employers.

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Iraqi official blasts Iran's stance in talks

BAGHDAD, Sept. 6, (KUNA): Deputy Chairman of the Iraqi Revolutionary Command Council, Ezat Ibrahim, today accused Iran of refusing to agree to a just and honourable peace at the Geneva talks.

The Iraqi official said Tehran is only seeking a temporary truce.

He made the comments at the opening session of the 23rd Arab Information Ministers Conference taking place here.

He called on Arab information officials to stand by Iraq in the struggle for peace. "We are seeking your support in this battle," he said.

Ibrahim welcomed the participants and conveyed Iraqi President Saddam Hussein's regards to those attending the conference.

Kuwaiti Information Minister Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al Hamad said the ministers will discuss the Arab satellite (Arab-sat).

Exchange
In an exclusive interview with the Saudi magazine 'Ukaz' published in Riyadh today, Sheikh Jaber Mubarak said the Arab ministers will discuss exchanging



Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al Hamad

Arab television programmes between Arab countries through Arab-sat.

He also commented on Israel's plans to launch its first satellite in the coming few days. There is no doubt Israel will use the satellite

to transmit programmes to Arab countries, and Arabs should be prepared for this, he said. The Arab information ministers will give this issue due attention, he said.

Confront
The Kuwaiti minister also said that the Arab media have been trying for years to positively confront anti-Arab media campaigns.

He added however, that due to the political situation in the region, the Arab response to such campaigns produced no effective results.

Discussing joint Arab media co-operation, Sheikh Jaber Mubarak said some conditions must be met to secure the success of such co-operation.

He listed these conditions as good intentions, serious implementation, provision of financial resources and dependence on specialists in the information field.

During the conference, information ministers are expected to discuss a joint Arab information strategy, a plan to back the Palestinian popular uprising and development of radio and television programmes.

Kuwait considering offer to buy arms from France

KUWAIT is considering an offer by France to supply advanced weapons to the country, Defence Minister Sheikh Nawaf Al Ahmed said yesterday. "France has offered to provide Kuwait with all its needs for advanced weapons and equipment, and we are currently studying the proposal," he told a local daily.

French Defence Minister Jean-Pierre Chevenement arrived in Kuwait last Saturday, and was received by HH the Amir the following day.

During the past few weeks Kuwait has bought weapons and armoured vehicles from both Egypt and the Soviet Union, and last month signed a 1.9 billion dollar deal with Washington for the purchase of 40 F-18 fighter jets and 300 Maverick anti-ship missiles.

France offered to sell Kuwait a

number of Mirage 2000 fighters if Congress failed to approve the US deal.

Nawaf added that the French minister, who ended his official visit to Kuwait on Sunday, delivered an invitation from his President Francois Mitterrand to HH the Amir to visit Paris. HH the Amir accepted the invitation, for a date to be fixed later.

Chevenement also renewed an invitation from French Prime Minister Michel Rocard to HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah to visit Paris in the near future. HH the Crown Prince accepted the invitation.

Nawaf went on to comment on negotiations in Geneva between Iran and Iraq, affirming the need for direct negotiations between the two countries to put an end to the eight-year-old war and establish peace in the region.

According to Nawaf, a meeting of GCC defence ministers will be held in Riyadh in mid-November just prior to the convening of the GCC summit conference.

Regarding the Palestinian uprising in the occupied territories, the Kuwaiti defence minister remarked that it is a "real revolution against the enemy" and that "the Arabs are proud" of it. He hailed the Palestinian struggle in the occupied lands, and expressed the belief that the revolution will "help achieve Palestinian goals everywhere."

Kuwait has and continues to support the Palestinian struggle toward the fulfilment of its aims, including the establishment of an independent state on their land, Nawaf said, and added that Kuwait is ready to support every step in this regard.

KAC studying need for planes

THE Kuwait Airways Corp. (KAC) is evaluating its need for new planes in the coming decade, according to KAC chairman, Ahmad Al Mishari.

A special committee headed by the director-general of the corporation is reviewing the specific of its fleet for the 1990's.

Upon submission of the committee's requirements and recommendations, technical studies of the various planes available on the market will be undertaken as a final step before final purchases are implemented.

Replaced
KAC set up a similar committee at the end of 1970s to implement plans for the 1980s. This method proved successful in planning the corporation's first fleet, and the same procedures are to be followed for renewing its existing fleet.

The committee is expected to complete its work during the



Al Mishari

second half of next year. A number of planes in KAC's existing fleet will be replaced by newer models for use in the coming decade, according to Al Mishari.

A book has been issued by KAC which describes the efforts made by the corporation towards developing improved administrative and financial systems.

Clarification

THE National Housing Authority's assistant director of design and planning clarified that it is the contractors of the houses who are responsible for meeting construction and safety standards for a 10-year period, and not the authority as reported in the Arab Times issue of Sept. 5.

Qaboos receives Sheikh Saqer

MUSCAT, Sept. 6, (KUNA): Sultan Qaboos Bin Saad of Oman received Sheikh Saqer Bin Mohammad Al Qasbi, ruler of the emirate Ras Al Khaima, today, with his accompanying delegation. Radio Muscat reported.

The two leaders exchanged cordialities and discussed bilateral relations during their half-hour meeting.

Sheikh Saqer, a member of the UAE Supreme Council, arrived here earlier today on an official three-day visit, stating that issues of mutual interest to the two countries would be discussed.

Country Finals to be held today

THE organisers of the Benson & Hedges Management Challenge arrived yesterday to hold the second stage of the competition, the Country Finals in Kuwait.

To be held over one day, the Country Finals are to decide the Country Winners who will represent their region at the Grand Finals this November in Malaysia.

The Country Finalists were selected in the first stage from a large number of competitors.

Today's Country Finals will be held at the Kuwait Hilton International Hotel.



One of the children being taken to school.



Students doing morning exercises before classes.

Computerised registration will continue

KUWAIT University will keep using computerised systems for student registration, according to Dr Mustafa Marafi, Dean of registration and admissions at Kuwait University.

The system failed on Saturday and officials were forced to use manual registration. Marafi stressed the failure was not in the computer system itself, but due to bad planning in operations.

Marafi denied there were any errors in the computer programmes and added that the system was used experimentally during the summer semester and proved successful.

He expressed the hope that the university will solve the problems with computerised registration in the next two months.

The computerised system will be used during next semester, he added.

39 motorists sentenced last month

THIRTY-NINE motorists, indicted on charges ranging from unlicensed driving to manslaughter, were sentenced to jail last month, a report issued by the Judgements Enforcement Department has revealed.

The report also disclosed that 60 driving licences were revoked during the same period on charges of collision, intoxication and going through red traffic lights.

The total number of sentences passed down amounted to 3,149, the report added.

War may resume if ...

(Continued from Page 1)

the foreign ministers have not even come separately to talk with Eliasson since Saturday night.

But ambassadorial negotiators have met the Swedish diplomat, who has kept trying to find small areas of agreement to build confidence and inspire larger concessions.

To try to advance the talks, the United Nations has turned to other states.

This morning Eliasson met ambassadors of certain UN Security Council member states, UN spokeswoman Therese Gastaut said without elaborating.

No increase in rent allowance planned

THE Kuwaiti Government has no plans to increase the rent allowance of Kuwaitis, according to an authoritative source at Kuwait's Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour.

The question of transferring the rent allowance of those Kuwaitis still awaiting distribution of government housing from the ministry to the National Housing Authority (NHA) is still under discussion.

A local daily quoted the source

Osaimi leaves for non-aligned meeting

STATE Minister for Foreign Affairs Saoud Mohammed Al Osaimi and his accompanying delegation left Kuwait yesterday evening for Cyprus, in order to attend the ministerial meeting of the Non-Aligned Movement, which opens today.

Osaimi told KUNA prior to his departure that the four-day meeting would cover international issues, particularly Third World matters.

He indicated that selecting a location for the movement's next summit would top the ministers' agenda. He said it was unlikely that Kuwait would be the host.

He added that Indonesia and Nicaragua have requested hosting the summit, saying, "it has not come to my mind that Kuwait would be an alternative to either of the two."

Osaimi said a main feature of the ministerial conference is that it coincides with the current détente in international relations

following a resolution of the Afghan problem and the Iran-Iraq ceasefire.

The senior Kuwaiti official added that the Palestinian popular uprising in the Israeli-occupied Arab lands would figure prominently in the deliberations.

Figure
He expressed the belief that the Palestinian uprising would receive the full support of the foreign ministers.

The Kuwaiti delegation to the conference is comprised of Kuwait's permanent delegate to the UN, Mohammed Abu Al Hassan, who represented Kuwait at the conference's preparational meeting, and a number of senior Foreign Ministry officials.

They were seen off at the airport by Foreign Undersecretary Sulaiman Majed Al Shaheen and other ranking officials.

Lack of donors limits kidney transplants

A TOTAL of 250 individuals suffering from prolonged kidney failures are unable to get kidney transplants and are threatened with death as their lives depend solely on dialysis, according to Dr Mahmoud Samhan, director of Hamed Al Issa Organ and Kidney Transplant Centre.

New kidney patients in Kuwait are estimated at about 100. Another 100 patients will require transplants of either the heart, liver, pancreas or bone marrow.

Kidney transplants are preferable to dialysis, since transplants have more than a 90 per cent success rate. Dialysis is only successful in 40 per cent of the cases, the doctor said.

Fatwa
Each patient receiving kidney dialysis costs the government KD 10,000 every year. A kidney transplant costs KD 5,000.

The main problem with transplants in Kuwait is the unavailability of organs due to a lack in local donors. The Ministry of Awkaf has issued a Fatwa (religious ruling) stating that the

donation of body organs is permitted by Islam. However, many people still have the impression that removing organs from the dead "disfigures" the body of the donor. The lack of organs thus has social and psychological causes, and not religious ones, Samhan said.

The centre, which began in February of this year, is the first and most advanced of its kind in the entire Middle East. A total of 19 kidney transplants, all successful, have been performed there thus far.

The centre has a capacity of 40 beds and includes ultra-modern facilities.

The staff of 117 doctors can perform up to 100 kidney transplants per year, in addition to other types of surgery, Samhan concluded.

200,000 students go back to school

MORE than 200,000 kindergarten and primary school children returned to school yesterday.

The Ministry of the Interior ensured the smooth flow of traffic in overcrowded areas and at major crossroads and roundabouts.

The major traffic police concentration was in Jabriya and neighbouring Surra, where many private schools are located.

In Jabriya, a number of diversions and special traffic arrangements were made, including adding an entrance from the Ring Road to Fajr Al Sabah, the Irtaman school and the English schools in Jabriya.

The main reason for the heavy traffic that parents are required to take their children to school on the first day. Thereafter, they take the majority of students.

To avoid severe congestion, the Ministry of Education scheduled the students' return to take place several days apart. Intermediate and Secondary stage students will return to school on Saturday.

Agriculture course begins

RABAT, Sept. 6, (KUNA): A training course on agricultural development projects in the Arab world started in Rabat yesterday.

The 10-day course was organised by the Arab Organisation for Agricultural Development (AOAD) and the International Agricultural Development Fund. Experts from Algeria, Mauritania, Tunisia, Lebanon, Djibouti, Sudan and Somalia are attending the course.

The course is meant to improve Arab agricultural performance, promote agricultural and economic development in the Arab world and consolidate action in the area, said the AOAD Director-General Hassan Fahmi Guma during the opening session.

The AOAD gives particular importance to food security in the Arab world and spurs its effort to promote agriculture through studies of the agricultural sector and the establishment of comprehensive common Arab agricultural institutions.

The course will also give priority to Arab countries economic policies, Guma said.

Pakistani school elections planned

ELECTIONS to the Board of Governors and the 16-member Parents Council of the International School of Pakistan will be held on Sept. 23, according to the secretary of the board.

Procedures for the elections will be announced on Sept. 20, the day the school opens.

Mrs Musarat Azhar, the vice-principal, will work as the acting principal until a new appointee takes over.

The ambassador of Pakistan, as chairman of the school's Board of Governors, has stressed all outstanding problems with the Kuwaiti Ministry of Education Anwar Abdullah Al Nouri who said that all outstanding problems will be resolved.

The present transport contractor has been fired and alternative transport will be arranged, school officials said.

Saudis deny

RIYADH, Sept. 6, (KUNA): Saudi Arabia today dismissed as baseless French press reports that the kingdom "has been mediating between Washington and Tehran, Saudi Press Agency (SPA) said.

Referring to a report, to be published tomorrow, by the French magazine Jeune Afrique, SPA quoted official Saudi sources as saying the news of Saudi mediation between Iran and the US is "fabricated" and categorically unfounded.

Wheat project began 5 years ago

THE Public Authority for Agriculture and Fisheries began preparations five years ago for wheat cultivation in Kuwait, according to Jassim Habib, the Authority's director of the Department of Botanical Wealth.

The Authority, in co-operation with the Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research (KISR), conducted experiments at some farms which demonstrated the possibility of wheat cultivation in Kuwait, the director said.

Purchase

He added that farmers will not be obliged to cultivate wheat.

The Authority allocated KD700,000 materials and seeds to farmers interested in growing wheat. The Authority will also

offer free fertilizers, machines to thresh wheat and will plow and till the ground at its own expense.

The project is supported by HH the Amir and the state will purchase all the locally grown wheat from farmers at double the prices prevailing in the international market, the official said.

Training
Habib said that an area of about 5,000 domms has been specially allocated to cultivate wheat in Kuwait as of the end of August this year. Four teams will followup the experiments and advise farmers.

Special publications on wheat cultivation, along with training courses for farmers in agricultural areas of Abadi and Wafra have also been provided by the Authority, Habib added.

Vacancy

A leading contracting company requires immediately:

A Quantity Surveyor with not less than 5 years' experience

Interested candidates may call at telephone numbers: 2412160 / 5 lines 2413165 / 5 lines

OBITUARY



Maxim Urban D'Souza

Born on 16-5-81

Expired on 2nd Sept. 1988.

Deeply mourned by:

father Bonaventure, mother

Benny, sisters Irene &

Rosline, Brothers-in-law,

Mohan & Jerome, uncle

Lawrence, aunt Alice &

friends.

The mass will be on 7.9.88

at 4 pm Kuwait church.

May his soul rest in peace.

EVENTS

VIDEO CORNER

Conmen in comic capers

By Gail Seery

IT'S 1963 in Baltimore. A guy buys himself a new Cadillac. He backs out of the showroom in the brand new car, and promptly runs into another, somewhat older Cadillac. Pretty soon both drivers are engaged in a mutually destructive determination to "get even."

Bill Bubaski and Tilley are the aluminum salesmen, or Tin Men, which is also the name of this film. They sell aluminum siding by a series of scams, which vary from the mildly dishonest to the totally deceitful. Bubaski is played by Richard Dreyfuss, and Danny De Vito plays Tilley.

Tilley was not exactly watching the road ahead, and Bubaski certainly didn't look first, but both are adamant that it is the other's fault, and the situation rapidly degenerates further.

"He backs in front of me," yells Tilley, "he rips my side view mirror off, and then he says I'm crazy."

"Look at this," Bubaski proclaims to the onlookers. "My car has a sixteenth of a mile on



Richard Dreyfuss and Danny De Vito star as feuding salesmen in Tin Men.

it, and already it's been hit," He swears he will get even, and it is Tilley who speaks the prophetic words, "You picked the wrong guy to get even with pal." Too right.

At first the spite manifests itself by increasingly violent attacks on each other's parked cars. Then Bubaski hits a new idea. He will get even with Tilley by having an affair with his wife. This accomplished, Bubaski phones Tilley, who promptly retorts that he's glad,

because now he has the excuse to throw his wife out of the house. "I've been set up, I thought I was getting even, but all the time I was being set up," says Bubaski in a daze.

The situation degenerates even further when Bubaski realises that for the first time in his life he is in love -- with Norah Tilley. However, the course of true love does not run smooth in movies, and she is appalled to discover that her lover is the same man who smashed

her husband's car, and that worse, he only took her to bed in an attempt to get even with Tilley. That's bad enough, but the thing that really upsets her is his trade. "He didn't tell me he was a tin man, he told me he sold baby pictures. Oh God, not another tin man!"

Bubaski persuades her to return to him, but she isn't too happy to learn that he has played a game of pool with Tilley in which staying with her, or leaving her, is the stake.

The sub plot concerns the various scams that the tin men are running, one of which is Bubaski and sidekick Mc Pretending that the house will be used as a "before" photo in a "before and after" sequence in Life magazine. They sell the aluminum siding when the householder gets the idea that this is how they can get in the magazine as an "after" picture. Tilley's scam is to tell the householder that the \$40,000 job will be done free. Then he sends his partner in to say that Tilley just had a nervous breakdown, that his boss is certainly not going to pay for \$40,000 worth of

aluminium siding, and that therefore, Tilley will most certainly be sacked unless they agree to pay.

The various scams are beautifully worked through, but the shadow of the Home Improvement Commission looms -- they will take away the trading licence of any salesman caught using dishonest practices to sell his wares. Bubaski and Tilley are both determined not to be caught, but events conspire against them.

It is a very effective film, and most certainly one of De Vito's best. In his other films, like Wise Guys, he tends to overshadow all other characters, but in this one Dreyfuss matches him at his own game, bringing his own highly comic and manic intensity to a very funny story indeed. At times the action can only be described as hilarious, especially when Tilley thinks he has caught Bubaski breaking into his house, and decides to humiliate him. If you haven't already seen it you should do so immediately.

Sheen shines in courtroom drama

By Shaun Seekins

JUDGEMENT in Berlin is an exciting thriller starring Martin Sheen. Sam Wanamaker and Sean Penn. It is based on a true story described in Herbert Stern's book of the same name and set in Europe during 1976. A West German construction worker has fallen in love with a woman from East Germany and obtains a false passport for her and her daughter. Unfortunately whilst on his way to meet her in Poland he is picked up by the security police and arrested.

The woman and her daughter take a flight back to East Germany in the company of a friend who decides to hijack the plane to West Berlin. He succeeds in forcing the plane to land at the American Military Base at Tempelhof Airport but the woman's husband is not allowed to see her.

As the Bonn government don't want to be involved, the Americans decide to bring in a hard-line "no plea bargaining" judge (Martin Sheen) to try the case. Sheen commences an extraordinary court case, with riveting performances by all the major characters. Martin

Sheen especially shines, an altogether different performance from his other recent release DA. In DA he plays an Irish-American who emigrated to New York many years before (DA is not short for District Attorney but an Irish way of saying Daddy). As the film opens we get news of his father's death and there follows a sentimental journey backwards in time as Sheen remembers incidents from his childhood. Brilliantly acted by Sheen and Bernard Hughes who plays his father. Although some of the Irish brogue might be a little difficult for the rest of us to understand.

Johnny Be Good is a new teenage comedy starring Anthony Michael Hall, Robert Downey Jr and Paul Gleason. When the star of the high school football team tries to decide which college to attend, he has to fight his way through a series of adventures, including anti-hijacking and anti-terrorism.

A distinct change of pace for Sheen. "I buy you a new cleaver for your birthday and this is how you repay me..." That's the slaughter-

house owner talking, and he's not at all happy about the fact that his monstrous son Buddy has gone hog wild and slaughtered a bunch of empty headed teenagers just because their courting habits upset his pet pigs. But on reflection old Lester realises that the 350 pound psychotic is not such a bad kid after all -- he did hang the corpses up neatly -- and it might be a good idea to get him to dole out some of the same treatment to the unscrupulous property developers who are just about to drive them off their land.

Supercarrier is quite simply Top Gun for television, so as that is not available here, watch the alternative... if you can stand romanticised portraits of the American military.

P.I. Private Investigations is the first full length feature from top British music-promo director Nigel Dick (Do They Know It's Christmas and others) and the film has all the flash and dash of MTV. Young Los Angeles architect Joey Bradley (Clayton Rohner) finds himself unwittingly enmeshed in a potentially explosive news story being secretly unfolded by his editor-father Charles (Anthony Zerbe).

Like Hitchcock's The Man

Who Knew Too Much (which just happens to be playing on TV the night Joey's nightmare begins), the bemused younger Bradley is tracked by crooks and cops alike. Too alike in fact, since the story that the baddies are trying to suppress (and mistakenly believe Joey has rumoured), is all about a rotten bunch of drug-dealing officers in the LA Police Department.

Joey's bad night begins with the discovery of a mysterious black man bloody dead in his shower. Before the victim was zapped by cop-hunter Ryan (Ray Sharkey, in menacing form), he has deposited a tape containing a crucial set of figures on Joey's answerphone.

The action sequences are handled with style, depicting violence in a realistic fashion, a brutal encounter at a junkyard ending in a particularly nasty payoff for one of Joey's helpers. Altogether a good first effort for Mr Dick.

Good News for music-lovers... the new Collection II is at long last available containing more than thirty of the latest music hits. The above films are by courtesy of VFI Fintias/Farwaniya; Video Nauf, Tel: 2432809; and Video Club, Tel: 5724372.



Martin Sheen is brilliant in Judgement in Berlin.



Robert Downey Jr stars in Johnny Be Good.

WHAT'S ON

ARTS

Kuwait Science Museum
The museum will be open to the public every evening from 5 pm and from 9 am on Fridays.

Islamic Arts Museum
The museum, located on Arab Gulf Street, is open from 8.30 am to 12.30 pm and 4.30 to 7.30 pm, Saturday thru Thursday. A collection of the finest Islamic art objects are on show.

Tareq Rajab Museum
The museum in Jabriya houses a collection of Islamic arts, costumes and jewellery from the Muslim world. Summer timings are 9 am to 12 noon and 4 to 7 pm, Sat. thru Thurs. On Friday the museum is open only in the mornings.

East Meets West
The Indian Arts Circle presents "East meets West," a musical evening, by The Fams featuring Hindi, Punjabi, Malayalam, Tamil, Konkani, Bengali, Arabic and Western music. The lead vocalist will be Susan Rego. It will be held at IAC, Funnites, at 6.30 pm on Oct 6. Entry by passes. Tel: 2409250; 4743948 or IAC - 3904817.

Beat Show
The Kuwait Goan Beat Show will be held on Oct 14, 3.30 pm, at the IAC, Funnites. The four-hour show will feature six popular groups -- City Limits, 5th Dimensions, Perfect Stranger, Stepping Stones, Next of Kin and Top Ranks. The show has been organised by the Kuwait Goans.

Kuwait Players poolside BBQ
The Kuwait Players poolside barbecue will be held on Sept 21 (Wednesday) from 8 pm at the Messilah Beach Hotel. Tickets -- KD2. All prospective members and newcomers to Kuwait are welcome. Tel: 3941572 for details.

British Council
The education adviser at the British Council, Mansouriya, will give a talk on "Bachelor Degrees in Britain" on Monday, Sept 12, and Tuesday, Sept 13, 6 pm. For further details phone Mrs. Kate Harris on 251-5512/253-3204.

Guitar Recital
German guitarist and composer Wolfgang Condin will give a recital at the Kuwait Hilton on Oct 19. "Hymns of Eternity," one of Condin's most significant compositions will be featured in his concert along with works by J.S. Bach and H. Villa-Lobos. Tickets are available from the Hilton lobby.

Varca Sporting Centre
Varca Sporting Centre will hold their third annual social evening at the Tent, SAS hotel, on Sept 22 at 8.00 pm. Music will be provided by Top Ranks and Stepping Stones. For reservations and details, contact Roland 2430581 or James 5331940.

At the Sheraton
Enjoy Italian cuisine and live entertainment by the Sienna Duo at the Riccardo restaurant. Riccardo's is closed for lunch on Fridays.

At the Continental
The Gardemia, open from 7 am to midnight, offers buffets featuring Arabic, Continental and Indian food for dinner on Thursdays and at lunch on Fridays.

At the Holiday Inn
Al Ahmadi Coffee Shop offers international buffet meals at lunch and dinner from 6 am to 1 am; a la carte also available. Fresh pastries and cakes are offered daily at the Viennese Cafe. The Hanging Babylon Gardens are an ideal place to relax with friends.

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At the Sheraton
Enjoy Italian cuisine and live entertainment by the Sienna Duo at the Riccardo restaurant. Riccardo's is closed for lunch on Fridays.

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TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

- 9.00 Holy Quran
- 9.15 Good Morning
- 9.30 Tales from A'und the World: "Ivan Al Ahmaq" Cartoons
- 10.15 8 Harat Al Bahar: episode 9, daily serial
- 11.15 Al Raheel: local series, ep. 6, featuring Suad Abdullah, Ghanem Al Saleh, Maryam Al Saleh, Khalid Al Nafisi, Ali Buraiki
- 12.15 Documentary
- 1.00 News Summary
- 1.05 World News via Satellite
- 2.00 Songs and Music
- 2.35 Araq Daliya: Arabic series
- 3.35 Hindi cartoon serial
- 4.15 English feature film, starring Joseph Keaton
- 6.00 Bundug wa Bundug: Arabic serial for children
- 7.05 Weekly Seminar on Traffic Problems
- 7.45 Open University
- 8.30 Wa Qalat Al Arab: daily series
- 9.00 News in Arabic
- 9.50 Al Sakiah Tadawar: daily serial
- 10.50 Hikayat Min Al Badiyah: "Al Nauf", Starring: Miyad Awad, Hassan Ibra-



Sledge Hammer plays War Games, tonight at 10 pm on KTV 2.

- him, Ashraf Abaza
- 12.00 News Summary
- 12.05 World News via Satellite
- 12.30 Holy Quran/Closedown

KTV 2

- 6.00 Holy Quran
- 6.10 The Mouse Factory: animated feature for young viewers
- 6.30 The Kids of Degraasi Street: a serial for

- children
- 7.00 Managing the Micro
- 7.30 Growing Pains: "Great Expectation". Mike wants to meet his girl friend in Los Angeles despite his parent's opposition

- 8.00 News in English
- 8.30 O'Hara: "Last Year's Model". A leading fashion designer, accused of murder, is sentenced to death. O'Hara believes the man is innocent.

- 9.30 Wildlife on One: a look at insects and birds that threaten farms.
- 10.00 Sledge Hammer: "War Games". A company manager is killed while playing a war game in a forest. Sledge is assigned the case.

- 10.30 LA Law: the law firm buzzes with activity as the lawyers take on more cases.
- 11.30 News Summary, Magazine d'Actualite/Closedown

Please note that programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.



Wildlife on One, at 9.30 pm on KTV 2.

RADIO PROGRAMMES

English

- Morning
- 0800 Opening
- 0802 Songs and Music
- 0805 Writers and Poets in Arabic
- 0810 Literature
- 0830 News
- 0840 Songs and Music
- 0845 Daily Programme
- 0900 Golden Collections
- 0930 Album Tracks
- 1000 Our Press Today
- 1005 Songs and Music
- 1030 Music with a Theme
- 1100 Closedown
- 1330 News on FM Service.

BBC World Services

- 0000 World News
- 09 News about Britain
-

EDITORIALS

ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

THE main difference between men and women is that men are lunatics and women are idiots — Rebecca West, English writer (1892-1983).

South Korean press struggles

SEOUL. (Reuters): South Korean journalists working for state-controlled media are demanding editorial freedom after years of crushing political pressure.

The democratic reforms sweeping every sector of South Korean society have seen labour disputes erupt in every media group. Most privately owned newspapers have already settled with their staff.

Now newspapers and television stations that are wholly or partially owned by the government have taken centre-stage.

Where the primary issue at private newspapers was higher pay, the overriding concern of state-run media which have lived for years under government pressure is editorial freedom.

A front-page advertisement taken out by unions at the Korea Broadcasting System (KBS) and Munhwa Broadcasting Corporation (MBC) said: "The 5,000 union members of KBS and MBC think it is shameful that we have become a part of the system... by broadcasting biased and distorted reporting."

Interest
The government owns only KBS outright, but KBS has a controlling interest in MBC, South Korea's only other television station. There is a state holding, direct or indirect, in the Seoul Shinmun newspaper, the Pusan Daily and the English-language Korea Herald.

Outside Seoul, the government has leverage on the owners of all provincial newspapers.

Unions at these media are making headway on negotiating for independent editorial rights and equitable pay scales. The Pusan Daily and MBC recently resorted to unprecedented strikes.

Most controversial of current reporters' demands is that they be allowed to select their own editor-in-chief.

Management says there is no precedent for this, even in Western democracies. "But the situation for the government-owned press here is quite different," said Choe Sung-Jin, economic reporter at the Korea Herald and secretary of its trade union.

Life is not easy for NATO secretary general

By Timothy Appel

THE secretary general of NATO is supposed to be of the peace.

And Manfred Womer is. The former West German defence minister, who took up the top NATO post last month from Britain's Lord Carrington, says the Soviets have yet to match friendly words with the sort of deeds which would make him rest easier. Indeed, he sees the current thaw in East-West relations creating challenges as well as opportunities for the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

"I think you can only afford to compromise to improve East-West relations if you stand on solid ground," Womer says. And that means keeping a "coherent, credible defence posture."

But that may be easier said than done.

Womer, the first West German to ever serve as secretary general, comes to the post at a time of unprecedented stirring in the Western alliance. Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's charm offensive has found a receptive audience in Western Europe. As a result, it's becoming more difficult to convince Europeans that strong defence is necessary — especially when this means stationing nuclear weapons on their soil.

In Womer's own country, for instance, more than half those polled now say they don't want to use nuclear weapons as a deterrent against the East bloc.

Slap
The selection of a West German to fill the post of NATO secretary general is significant. It's known that Chancellor Helmut Kohl pushed hard for the choice. Rejection of Womer would have been seen as a major slap against Bonn. Having a West German in the top position is partly designed to underscore that nation's commitment to the Western alliance.

Womer is a conservative, known for his strong support for NATO. He has a reputation for thoroughness — carefully poring

"Political power to influence the media dates back to the 1950s and reached its peak under Chun Doo Hwan. Our editors were hired during this period. In some sense they are also the victims of an authoritarian system."

As part of moves to purge the press of political appointees, some managers and editors at KBS thought to have connections to Chun have resigned or were fired during the network's recent troubles.

But reporters in state-owned media do not seem to want the government to set its stock, just to let them do their job.

"We want independence from direct government pressure and independence from the capital providers," said Kwon Young-Kil, a union member and reporter on the foreign desk of Seoul Shinmun.

"We don't want a change in ownership right now. Even under these conditions we can make our own freedoms."

Controls
Newly-elected President Roh Tae-Woo has removed many press controls. The Agency for National Security Planning, formerly Central Intelligence Agency (KCIA), no longer makes daily calls on editors and the Information Ministry has stopped sending them its twice-daily press "guidelines."

Now many reporters who admit they censored themselves out of fear or just habit feel they must act decisively to end their complicity with the political system.

Blame
"We were so close to our sources, including the government, that there were many embargoes, and deep background briefings we couldn't report... a lot of people got sucked into the political machine," said one reporter. Many of his former colleagues are now working for the government.

"I think reporters like us cannot be free from blame. We are so accustomed to writing stories that suit the government," said another.

Reconstruction of Iran and Iraq

By John K. Cooley

LONDON: Real peace between Iran and Iraq will require a vast reconstruction effort — both physical and social — in the two Gulf nations.

Providing the material resources for this healing process will be a challenge to world Muslim leaders as well as to Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev and the new President of the United States. The economic powers in the Far East will also be key to its success.

All concerned — the superpowers, Muslim nations, and industrial countries of East and West — face one of history's great opportunities. To make peace work, they could divert resources normally expended on the arms race to help an estimated 63 million people (16 million Iraqis and 47 million Iranians) rebuild war-shattered economies and lives.

What has to be done? First, physical damage has to be repaired. Wasted by missiles, bombs, and shells, tens of towns and cities in Iran and Iraq — and the people who live in them — need urgent care and attention.

A great challenge to world leaders

Hundreds of thousands, possibly millions, of people in southern Iran and northern Iraq are refugees. They need new homes, schools, shops, farm plots. Crucial industries of both countries, especially those connected with oil and natural gas, are largely in ruins.

Bulldozed
Armies, with their artillery and armour, have tramped and bulldozed their way across millions of acres of land once used to grow food. Chemical weapons, used extensively, may have polluted water and soil. Roads and bridges have been bombed or shelled out of existence.

A research study from Japan's Institute of Middle Eastern Economics in Tokyo last January added up damage of another kind.

The study found that between 1981 and 1985 alone, damage to oil installations and export facilities produced oil revenue losses of \$23 billion in Iran and \$65.5 billion in Iraq.

Wartime military expenses totalled \$24.3 billion for Iran and \$33 billion for Iraq. Incalculable further losses flowed from livelihoods destroyed and labour forces decimated.

Who will pay for reconstruction, and help co-ordinate it? UN Security Council Resolution 598, endorsed by the world's six biggest powers, speaks of "appropriate international assistance." After the last major war of four centuries, World War II, the US got out in front in a successful effort to rebuild Europe through the Marshall Plan.

Co-operation
The Soviet Union had to make a titanic effort just to reconstruct its own wrecked cities. Joseph Stalin would not or could not spare for his East European client states aid comparable to America's post-1945 Marshall Plan.

Today, even in the era of Gorbachev and the new 1988 dawn of East-West co-operation, neither

the Soviet treasury nor the US Congress and taxpayer have the interest or cash to take the lead in rebuilding Iraq and Iran.

This looks far more like a job for the rising economic powers of the Far East — chiefly Japan and South Korea — in concert with the wealthy Arabs of the Gulf area and, of course, the Iranians themselves.

Prices on the stock market in Seoul soared upward in anticipation of new South Korean construction contracts as soon as Iran announced on July 18 that it had accepted the principle of a UN-supervised ceasefire.

Korean construction firms; Japan's steel, electronic, and petrochemical combines; and many thousands of Filipino, Korean, Taiwanese, and other Far Eastern workers, many of them skilled, are already gathering major rewards in the Gulf area. Peace and reconstruction should multiply their opportunities.

Other countries with major interests on both sides, such as Italy, are likely to follow. One great difficulty for both Baghdad and Tehran, as well as for UN agencies, may lie in sorting out competing projects and investors.

Clearing
After the Arab-Israeli conflicts of 1956, 1967, and 1973, clearing Egypt's Suez Canal of mines, sunken ships, and other hazards for world maritime traffic was a major challenge. But international efforts, with the US again out in front, met it.

A similar but greater challenge this time lies in clearing from the Iran-Iraq border waterway, the

Shatt Al Arab, about 75 sunken ships and many other objects, mines, and unexploded ordnance from Iran's repeated and futile land offensives against Iraq's southern port of Basra. Much of Basra and Iran's nearby ports of Abadan and Khorramshahr will have to be almost totally rebuilt, both as oil ports and as cities.

Once Iraq rebuilds its southern oil installations around Basra, it can reopen the old offshore, oil-export terminals that Iranian action closed early in the war. Since then, Iraq has pumped most of its oil through the pipelines it now uses across Saudi Arabia and Turkey.

Iran will have to give top priority to repairing its Kharq Island oil terminal in the Gulf, blasted by repeated Iraqi air attacks. It will seek capital from Far Eastern and probably European sources to restore its oil refineries, which were also key targets of Iraq's air force.

Reconciliation
Both countries will need to find bold and imaginative commercial bankers for loans. Japanese bankers are already on the scene. They, with Arab partners, and perhaps some Western ones, may be ready to provide credits to rebuild industries, especially those in which they have invested, such as petrochemicals.

Gradiose apartment blocks, highways, and office towers — products of the pre-war oil boom, and the pride of Baghdad — may proliferate again. Damaged and decimated Iranian cities like Ahwaz, Isfahan, and Dezful need to clear the debris of

war and rebuild. So must Iraq's Basra area and its northern towns, which were busy market centres before the war.

This process of physical renaissance will depend much on an equal or greater parallel process of political and human reconciliation.

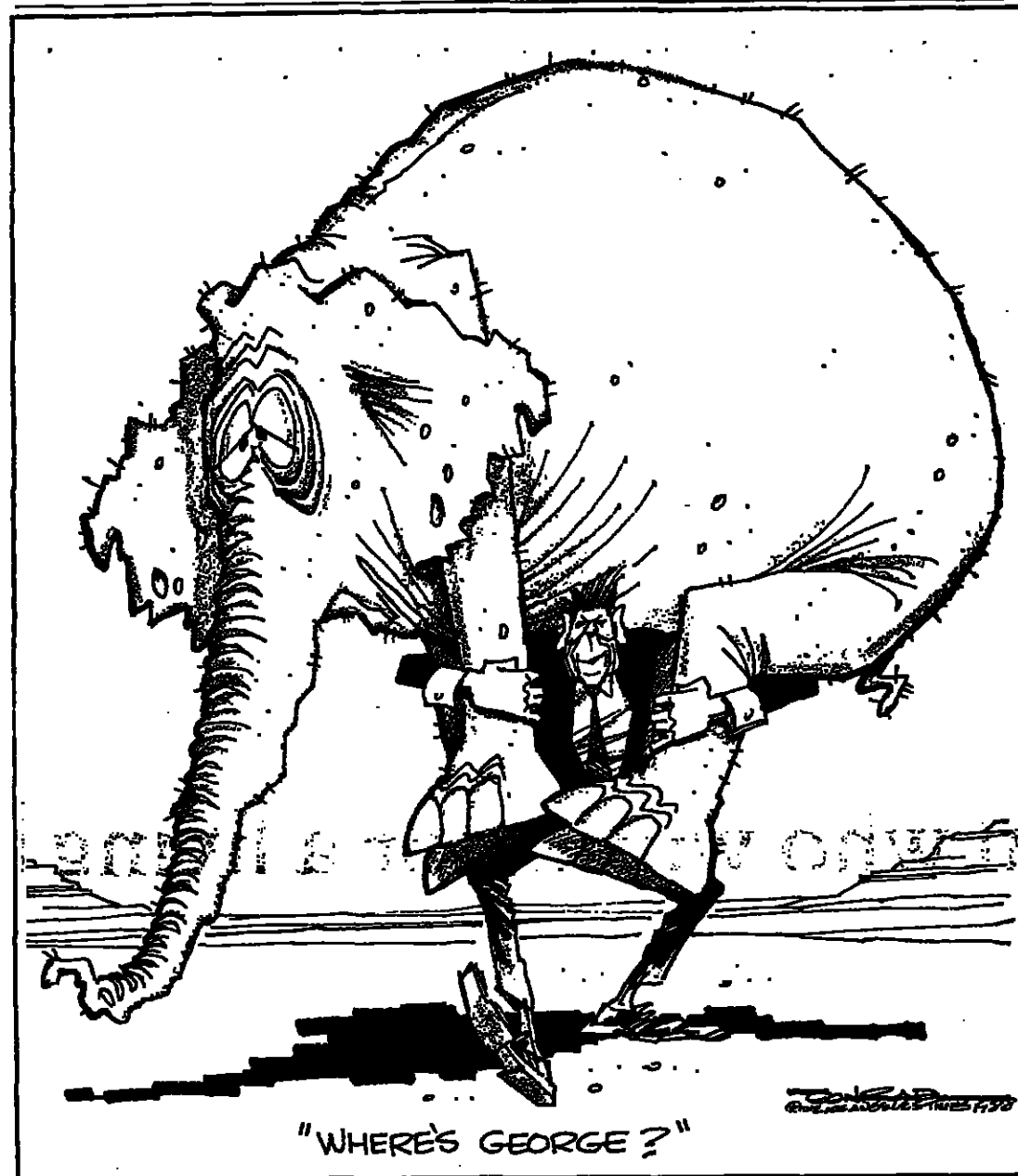
The eight-year war's political disputes — such as the location of the Shatt Al Arab boundary and the debate over who owns this or that pocket of desert or northern mountains — can be thrashed out at a peace table, as they have been over thousands of years.

What remains to challenge men and women of vision in both nations is how to begin this human reconciliation.

Iraq and its secular-minded, ruling Baath Party, have been tolerant toward most sects and faiths, including a small professional and mercantile Christian minority. Most of a once large and thriving Jewish community left in the early 1950s, under both internal Muslim pressures and external Israeli ones.

Iran's ruling Shiite clergy have often been intolerant of other faiths. Many Bahais, a few Jews, and a handful of Christians have been either imprisoned, executed, or hounded out of Iran.

The West has answered only a very hesitant and partial "yes." What its leaders can now do, with other people around the world, is encourage both the Iranian and Iraqi rulers, as they rebuild their countries, to grant to human rights the same priority given up to now to military efforts in a futile war neither side could win.



Americans fear good times may not last much longer

By Simon Alterman

WASHINGTON. (Reuters): Eight years ago Ronald Reagan turned to the camera during his televised election debate with President Jimmy Carter and asked Americans: "Are you better off than you were four years ago?"

Battered by inflation, haunted by energy shortages and humiliated by Iranian revolutionaries holding US diplomats hostage, the voters answered "no" and the Carter presidency was over.

Today, with the economy booming, inflation and unemployment tamed and peace breaking out around the world, logic suggests that Vice-President George Bush would coast to the White House by asking the same question.

Yet the polls and the pundits predict the closest elections in November between Bush and Democratic candidate Michael Dukakis, an opponent whose low-key campaigning style hardly seems designed to whip up enthusiasm in the electorate.

Prosperity
One reason is that boasting of prosperity does not impress those who have not enjoyed the fruits of the Reagan boom. But more important are the many who have prospered but who fear that the good times may not last much longer, that their future is insecure and that their country, for so long number one in the world, is inexorably losing ground to its rivals.

Travelling around the United States, such anxieties are palpable and are often blamed on a perceived threat from abroad — jobs lost to foreign competition, foreigners buying up US businesses, drugs pouring in from Latin America.

America's huge trade deficit with the rest of the world is seen as the work of unscrupulous allies relying on US tax payers to

pay their defence bills while they dump exports on US markets and erect barriers against American goods.

"The image in this country is that kindly old innocent Uncle Sam is always being taken for a ride by cunning, guileful foreigners," according to Sir Roy Denman, the European Economic Community's ambassador in Washington.

Uncertain
Even the bestseller lists reflect the preoccupation with an uncertain future. "The Rise and Fall of the Great Powers," a scholarly work by British historian Paul Kennedy, which draws on the evidence of 500 years to predict inevitable decline for the United States, has been on those lists for seven months.

And voters' fears about whether the household and national bills can be paid are showing up clearly in the opinion polls.

"While forecasts for the coming year are relatively bright, a substantial majority of the public is concerned that the country may be on the verge of a long-term period of economic decline," a Gallup survey reported in June.

Eighty per cent of those questioned said they were satisfied with their personal life. But only 41 per cent were satisfied with "the way things are going in the United States" and 54 per cent were dissatisfied. Two years ago, the majority was 66-to-30 per cent the other way.

Attack
"There's a great deal of economic anxiety out there, and that's what we're counting on," said Mark Gearan, a spokesman for the Dukakis campaign.

Dukakis has seized on record US budget deficits and rising interest rates as a weapon to attack the Reagan-Bush economic record and a symbol of the threatening future.

"Every small family, every

small community, every family farmer, every small businessman and woman is going to suffer as a result of these escalating interest costs," the Massachusetts governor said during a campaign visit to Florida this month.

Bush's response to such gloomy visions has been to beat the drum of patriotism, attacking Dukakis's stand on social and defence issues and echoing Reagan's rallying cry of making America great again.

"My opponent's view of the world sees a long, slow decline for our country, an inevitable fall mandated by impersonal historical forces," he told the Republican Party convention.

"But America is not in decline, America is a rising nation," he added.

Change
And in a bid to stop the Democrats monopolising the banner of change, which can be a potent force when one party has held the White House for eight years, Bush portrayed himself as an agent of safe change.

"When you have to change horses in midstream, doesn't it make sense to switch to one who's going the same way?" he said in his convention speech.

But the insecurities of ordinary Americans, living comfortably by most standards but still struggling to make ends meet on two incomes, were eloquently summarised in a letter from an unnamed Texas woman which was read to the Democratic Party convention this summer.

"I worry about how I'm going to pay the rising car insurance and food... we don't take vacations and we don't go out to eat," she wrote.

"We have jobs and a nice place to live and we're healthy... we obey the laws, we pay our taxes, we fly our flags on holidays. And we plod along, trying to make it better for ourselves and our children and our parents. We aren't vocal any more. I think maybe we're too tired."

By Kevin Cooney

BANGKOK. (Reuters): Parts of the 170,000-strong Burmese Army may still be willing to turn their guns on demonstrators but some military analysts doubt the Army has the power or will to put down pro-democracy protests.

"They filled in August and there are many more people on the streets now," one veteran analyst of Burmese affairs said this weekend. "The numbers may be just too great for them to handle."

Soldiers shot and bayoneted demonstrators between Aug 8 and 12, killing thousands. Doctors say 3,000 died in Rangoon alone.

Since Aug 12, when the bloody 18-day rule of Sein Lwin ended, the Army has stood back as the level of protest mounted and government control of cities, towns and national services broke down.

Last Thursday hundreds of thousands of demonstrators marched in Rangoon calling for an end to the 26-year rule of the Burma Socialist Programme Party (BSPP). Other massive demonstrations took place in Mandalay and Moaywa to the north.

Suppress
A Western diplomat in Rangoon was asked in a telephone interview on Monday if the Army could suppress the revolt now. "It would be quite difficult because the mass of the people are so committed to the cause," he said.

The cabinet's failure to follow through on a strongly worded warning to students to vacate occupied government offices, was also a sign the Army might no longer be willing or able to keep the government in power, said another analyst.

General Tin Oo, a former defence minister now prominent in the movement to overthrow the BSPP, told Reuters last week that officers up to battalion-commander level supported demands for multi-party democracy. But he said some officers at the top of the command structure still backed Ne Win.

Ne Win, the former general who ruled Burma since 1962 before stepping down in July as street protests mounted, is still believed by many to be the real power in the country.

Backing
He led Burma down the "Burmese road to socialism," the BSPP ideology that includes a strong measure of militarism. For nearly three decades senior officers in Burma have lived lives of privilege as the once rich country sank into poverty and political repression.

"From reports from some of my friends quite a lot of them (soldiers) are not anti-people — the majority, '81-year-old UN, the last democratically elected prime minister of Burma and the man Ne Win overthrew, told Reuters last week.

A hundred retired senior officers, many of whom are still

widely respected in the Army, signed a statement backing democracy and condemning 26 years of single-party rule.

If a large section of the Army were to balk at using their guns on citizens again, there is no question in the minds of opposition leaders in Rangoon some troops would open fire.

The Burmese Army has been hardened by decades of struggle against ethnic minority groups fighting for various degrees of autonomy and has a reputation of being one of the most disciplined forces in South-East Asia.

"It would certainly be possible for the Army to re-establish control by force in Rangoon, although the result would probably be very bloody," another Western diplomat in Rangoon said. "It is less certain how successful they would be elsewhere in the country."

Soldiers were seen reinforcing their defensive positions around Rangoon ahead of the next major confrontation between government and opposition, set for tomorrow.

Strike
The opposition says a general strike will begin tomorrow and will not end until the government of President Maung Maung has fallen. Maung succeeded Sein Lwin.

Hundreds of thousands are expected to take to the streets tomorrow to press demands for an interim government to lead the country towards a multi-party democracy.

"The main gate of the Ministry of Defence has been strengthened and trenches are being dug around military bases including the main Ministry of Defence cantonment," a third Western diplomat in Rangoon said on Monday.

He said the city hall and other

government ministries were also well guarded as were the homes of the rulers in the Lake Inya district.

"Troops are still very definitely around," he said, "but there has been no obvious increase in troop numbers."

The Army's Strategy Unit denied a report carried on the British Broadcasting Corporation that a number of battalions had changed sides outside Rangoon. Diplomats said they could not confirm the BBC report but they had heard reports of worsening morale among troops in the countryside.

Pay
Last Thursday, a group of protesters marched under a banner identifying them as "The Ministry of Defence Accounts Department," leading to speculation troops may have to worry about getting their pay cheques.

US Congressman Steven Solarz returned to Bangkok on Sunday night after a 24-hour visit to Rangoon during which he met with Maung Maung, other government leaders and prominent dissidents.

He said there were no questions in his mind that democracy would return to Burma.

"The only question," he said, "is whether the next era of democracy will emerge for the people of Burma peacefully or in chaos and violence. The regime has a choice — peacefully or with a massive bloodbath and potentially in a civil war."

Solarz, who heads a House of Representatives Sub-Committee on Asian Affairs, said he understood that most soldiers were in sympathy with the protesters.

"The big impediment to the attitude of the senior officers," he said.

TODAY IN HISTORY

- 1599 — Britain's Earl of Essex signs truce with Irish rebel Tyrone.
- 1701 — Treaty of the Hague, known as the Grand Alliance, signed, whereby Britain, Holland and Holy Roman Empire ally against France.
- 1714 — France signs Peace of Baden with Holy Roman Emperor, whereby France keeps Alsace and Strasbourg.
- 1764 — Stanislaus Poniatowski, protégé of Russia, is elected king of Poland.
- 1812 — Russians begin retreat after defeat by French at Borodino and begin to abandon Moscow.
- 1822 — Brazil proclaims independence from Portugal.
- 1848 — Serfdom is abolished in Austria.
- 1901 — Peace of Peking ends boxer rebellion in China.
- 1931 — Indian leader Mahatma Gandhi attends second India roundtable conference in London which fails to reach agreement on representation of religious minorities.
- 1939 — German Army overruns Pomerania and Silesia in Poland.
- 1945 — US President Harry Truman, at end of World War II, receives surrender paper signed by Japanese aboard US battleship Missouri.
- 1962 — Laos establishes diplomatic relations with China and North Vietnam, French President Charles de Gaulle arrives in Hamburg and proposes closer ties between French and German armed forces.
- 1986 — US reporter Nicholas Daniloff is charged with espionage in legal proceeding at Moscow prison.
- 1987 — West German engineer Alfred Schmitt is released by kidnappers in Beirut, Lebanon, after seven months as captive.

مركز الأخبار

PEOPLE



Professor Rubik: compares his puzzles to the problems of everyday life

After the cube, it's time now for Rubik's clock

Hungarian professor Erno Rubik baffled the world with his tantalising Rubik cube, which he invented as an algebraic aid to his students. More than 100 million were sold plus an estimated 50 million fakes. Now he's back with another brain-bender, the Rubik clock. It is as fiendish and compulsive as his famous cube and will, no doubt, be just as popular.

By Marina Shamoon

PROFESSOR Erno Rubik, the Hungarian puzzle wizard, has unleashed his latest brain-teaser — Rubik's clock.

It is as fiendish and compulsive as his famous Rubik Cube and no doubt will be just as popular.

According to Professor Rubik, you don't have to be a super brain to solve the clock. "This is a puzzle that ordinary people can solve if they really concentrate," he says.

"These days everybody is so concerned with exercising their bodies, but they forget the most important exercise of all — stretching the mind. And that is what my puzzles do."

Rubik's clock is a two-sided puzzle with nine clock faces on each surface. There are four wheels and four buttons which work different clocks. The aim is to set all clock hands on 12.

Professor Rubik chose Britain to launch his clock. And two schoolboys who solved the puzzle quickly received a lot of

publicity.

"I was pleased when I heard they solved it," says the professor. "And I'm sure many kids will follow suit. Youngsters are very productive, innovative and creative. When I was a teenager I was cleverer than I am now."

Alexander Scrivenor, 15, a pupil at Ampleforth College in North Yorkshire, solved the clock puzzle in just an hour and a half.

He says: "My stepfather brought the clock home and he tried to figure it out. Eventually he handed it over to me. I started fiddling with it and I managed to solve it."

"There are basically four moves and once you've coordinated those, you've mastered the clock. This is easier to solve than the cube because you only have two sides of the puzzle rather than six. I couldn't do the cube — I had to take it to pieces and reassemble it again."

"I don't think you have to have a mathematical mind to master the clock. I'm in the

second to bottom set in maths at school. It takes a different kind of mind.

"I'm not a puzzle addict. I just do the odd chess problem."

Professor Rubik is a perfectionist and compares his puzzle to the problems of daily life. "Problems are central to life," he says, "from finding enough to eat onwards."

To control and resolve problems you must first understand them. That is the point of the perfect puzzle."

Professor Rubik is visiting Britain with his wife Agnes and their daughters Sonja, 12, and Anna, 10.

Success

After the success of his famous cube, travelling all over the world has been part of Professor Rubik's life. He says: "I hate the process of travelling. But once I arrive at a place, I'm alright."

"But I miss my home, speaking the language, the neighbourhood and the food. Even when I go to a Hungarian restaurant abroad the food

doesn't taste the same as it does back home."

"But I enjoy seeing different cities, meeting people and learning about their culture."

The diminutive professor hit the international scene eight years ago with the launch of Rubik's Cube. Two million were sold in Hungary alone where the total population is just 10 million. The Cube confused, amused and confounded people all over the world and made Professor Rubik a millionaire — a far cry from his modest upbringing.

He was born in a bath during an air raid in 1944. As a child he describes himself as being "out of place among my classmates." He preferred solo activities like canoeing on the Danube and grappling with chess problems.

He went to The Academy of Applied Arts and Design in Budapest, eventually became a teacher there earning £150 per month, and seemed destined to go no further.

Then he invented Rubik's



Erno Rubik with his cube: in his native Hungary he is treated like a film star

Cube as an algebraic aid to his students. It soon became a craze.

An exiled Hungarian called Tibor Laczi recognised the Cube's commercial potential. In 1980, through Laczi, the toy was brought to the West by a British man called Tom Kermer.

At first the cube received a cool reception. Then someone in America's Ideal Toy Corporation placed a rather large order — for one million! It became a sensation. More than 100 million were sold plus 50 million fakes which earned a fortune for the counterfeit merchants. And 10 million books were sold explaining the secret of solving the puzzle.

Professor Rubik had hit the jackpot. He was a millionaire, a self-made one at that, and living in a Communist country.

At the peak of Cube mania, Rubik was earning \$30,000 a month in royalties. And that's in a country where petrol is half the price it is in Britain, travelling on the underground costs

two pence, three pence on the buses, and a half hour taxi trip costs £2.

In Hungary, Rubik was treated with the reverence the West reserves for film stars. Now he drives a Mercedes and lives in a large house — very different from his previous way of life.

"It was a strange feeling having money suddenly," he says. "If you are born into wealth you don't have any thoughts about money, but I had to adjust. Now it's no problem."

His home nestles in the "Beverly Hills" of Budapest. Professor Rubik is particularly proud of his swimming pool where the walls have a splash of the Rubik Cube's colours.

He has now set up a private industrial design company employing 20 people, nurturing beginners and developing designs for all sorts of products including furniture.

What's more — but you'll have to wait for it — he's also working on another brain-bending puzzle.

Taylor to make a screen comeback

By Jill Serjeant

ROME — Elizabeth Taylor is about to appear on the big screen after a seven-year absence in a role that seems perfectly tailored for her — a capricious, temperamental world celebrity preparing to make her stage comeback.

But, at the age of 56 and a grandmother six times over, Taylor says she's through with Hollywood and has found a new cause — campaigning for AIDS research.

She acknowledges that she has only a cameo role in Italian director Franco Zeffirelli's film *The Young Toscanini*, due to open out of competition at the Venice Film Festival in September.

Dislikes But despite claiming she dislikes fame she managed to relegate all around her to the role of a walk-on part during a news conference in Rome last week to present the 16-million-dollar joint Italian-French production.

Zeffirelli, who directed Taylor and the late Richard Burton in *The Taming of the Shrew* in 1966, described her as a "diva" — the Italian accolade literally meaning "goddess" reserved for celebrities like the late Maria Callas.

"There are no longer any women like her in the world. She is one of the few stars who can really be called a diva," the flamboyant Zeffirelli, 65, enthused.

Wearing a long, flowing lemon-coloured robe and dripping chunky diamonds from ears and fingers, Taylor parried an array of questions ranging from the frivolous to the personal with confident good humour.

Another husband? — "Never say never" the seven-times married Taylor quipped.

Most satisfying performance? — "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?"

Lost opportunity? — "The role of Anna Karenina, but I think I'm too old now."

"I agreed to do this film because Franco (Zeffirelli) asked me to. I adore him and if he asked me to take a trip to the moon I would do it," she said.

But she made clear that in future she intended to devote

her time to campaigning for AIDS research and helping victims of the disease.

After fighting her own battle against addiction to alcohol and prescription drugs, by entering the Betty Ford Clinic in 1983, Taylor founded the American Foundation for AIDS Research in September 1985.

"I don't really like being famous, but I thought that if using my name could do some good and could be of some benefit, if I could make my voice heard above the babble of hatred and fear, then it is worth it."

Epidemic

"Unless all of us try to stop the AIDS epidemic there isn't going to be a world for us to enjoy in a few years' time."

"I'm out of Hollywood now... if a script comes along that I really like then I will do it, but now my life is for AIDS. It's the most important thing I am involved in, I give more of my life and time to it than anything else," she said.

Taylor said the foundation had raised 12 million dollars to help reward researchers and educate the public about the disease.

Taylor said Zeffirelli had "seduced" her back to the cinema to play the part of Russian soprano Nadina Bulisicov, the "diva" whom 18-year-old Arturo Toscanini coached for her comeback to the stage in Rio de Janeiro in 1886.

Both have vivid personal memories of the Italian conductor. Taylor met him shortly before he died in 1957.

"He was one of the most dynamic, flirtatious men I've ever met in my life and he was 90 years old then," she said.

Zeffirelli clashed with the Italian maestro at La Scala in 1954 when as a young man still struggling to establish a reputation he told Toscanini in no uncertain terms to stop interfering in his opera production.

Zeffirelli went on to make his name with film versions of Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet* in 1968, and operas including *La Traviata* in 1982 and *Otello* starring Placido Domingo in 1986.

He said he hoped *The Young Toscanini*, filmed in Portugal, Italy and Brazil, would shed some light on the adolescence of a man who had always been portrayed in his older years.

"Ever since my first meeting with the great maestro, I have wanted to know how he first became such a significant and important part of the music scene," the Italian director said.

American Thomas Howell plays the youthful Toscanini.

The royal who works for a living

By Gregory Jensen

LONDON, (UPI) — One way or another, the British public has been seeing a lot lately of a slim, unassuming young man named David Linley, which might not seem surprising since he's 11th in line for the throne.

What is surprising, however, is that David Albert Charles Armstrong-Jones, Viscount Linley, isn't seen doing things other royals do.

He doesn't attend galas, open factories, lay cornerstones, lend his name to charities.

Instead he's exhibiting at design shows, winning a best-piano design award, at his own new restaurant, introducing his new line of chinaware for the table.

The fact is, David Linley, 26, the son of Princess Margaret, the Queen's sister, and photographer Lord Snowdon, is the first and only direct member of Britain's royal family to earn his living with his hand.

And even without his title or royal connections, he's become a craftsman and businessman to watch.

His company, David Linley Furniture, recently had to expand into second show room at the scruffy end of fashionable Chelsea's King's Road.

Owned

Not long ago it opened its own manufacturing arm in a converted 17th century barn on land owned by Prince Charles, Linley's cousin and Britain's next king. Charles performed the opening ceremony.

"I love running my own business," Linley told one interviewer. "There's so much fun in it."

"The thing I enjoy most is the independence. I'm not answerable to anybody but myself at the end of the day."

But Linley's hand-crafted, one-of-a-kind furniture, some of it so good it is commissioned by museums, is only part of his activity.

In a splashy new London apartment complex where actor Michael Caine has a tower apartment, a medium-priced restaurant called Deals opened recently, decorated in satin-smooth wood by Linley and owned by him and photographer Lord Patrick Lichfield, Queen Elizabeth's cousin.

Linley and his furniture-business partner, designer Matthew Rice have just introduced a range of china, glass, cutlery, linen and other houseware.



Linley (left) admires a model parrot made by one of his craftsman friends.

All this adds up to considerable achievement by a quiet-spoken, long-faced man with wavy brown hair who won't be 27 until Nov 3. He is quick to admit that royalty has been anything but a handicap.

"Certainly it opens doors," he said recently. "But those same doors shut in your face if you don't deliver the goods."

Linley began learning to

"deliver the goods" in two years at the demanding, high-level woodworking school run by John Makepeace, probably Britain's top craftsman furniture maker.

"A piece of furniture is often a team effort, but I don't think you can be a good designer if you can't make a thing yourself," Linley once said. These days he confesses he's more a

salesman than a craftsman.

When he and Rice formed David Linley Furniture in 1985 — without financial help from Margaret or Snowdon — their first splashy product was folding screens in intricate marquetry. One based on Venice's buildings took 2,000 pieces of 18 different woods.

Then came striking sets of desk top accessories decorated with miniature Venice palazzos or English barns and farmhouses.

In furniture, "everything we do is done to commission," Linley says. He made 50-foot (15m) boardroom table for New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art. One piece is in London's Victoria and Albert museum, which is now talking of a Linley exhibition. His customers are in the United States, Japan, Australia, Canada and several European countries.

Linley and Rice screens can cost \$20,000 or more, and all furniture carries one-of-a-kind prices. The new bone china is their first attempt at designing for a mass market, selling for between \$9.50 and \$170 per piece.

Linley has no hesitation in seeking publicity for his company or the things he makes. But in every other respect he is almost self-effacing, a modest and far from headline-hungry young man.

It was an exception the other day when a weekly newspaper persuaded him to photograph trees, of all things, and filled seven pages and its cover with the result.

"Being royal is no big deal here in London," Linley wrote in an article about his typical day. "I don't think we've ever had anyone come in just to ask for an autograph or anything silly like that." Not that he has been out of the limelight. In this country no royal family member stays unnoticed for long.

Royalty-hungry tabloids have focused on his love life — tangled, by all accounts, after a recent break with his girlfriend of five years, Susannah Constantine. His brushes with the law made headlines — with repeated arrests for speeding and a suspended driving license. Linley is the first royal with a technical criminal record.

But overall, "David Linley has controlled his publicity skillfully drawing a tight line between business and his private life," said a recent study. Mostly he sticks to furniture and designing. That's how he earns his living.

Renminbi millionaire

By Tim Luard

"LEARN from Comrade Lei Feng," Chairman Mao proclaimed 30 years ago, thus elevating a simple, self-sacrificing soldier to a national hero. But times change, and heroes too. Today China gives its blessing to men like Liu Xiang, a 28-year-old former carpenter who became a millionaire (at least in Chinese terms) through selling motorcycle crash helmets.

In a land where the average wage is less than £100 a year, Liu says his assets are worth £150,000, or, in people's currency, one million renminbi. His success has made him an All China Model Worker, as well as a prime candidate for the attentions of the sort of girls who once regarded simple soldiers as ideal marriage partners. He is one of a growing number of Chinese whose position on the top rung of society derives from economic rather than political power.

In the imperial days, merchants came somewhere below peasants in terms of respectability. The path to social advancement began with examinations in the classics, leading to a career as a local magistrate or a mandarin at the Emperor's court. With the coming of the communists, the business community all but disappeared as the Confucian texts were replaced by those of Marx and Mao.

Score

But under the post-Mao regime, to study anything other than an account sheet is to invite scorn and penalty. Teachers earning £10 a month complain that the country has become "morally bankrupt". Self-employed taxi-drivers, who rarely bother to stop for anyone wearing something as humble as a Mao suit, zero in on the leather jackets and Western suits of the new elite.

Private businesses were first sanctioned by the reformist leadership of Deng Xiaoping 10 years ago, after decades of being condemned as "remnants of capitalism and feudalism". Deng's policy is that "someone has to get rich ahead of the others, so that the whole nation will prosper in the end."

Liu Xiang's rapid rise to the top began six years ago. As an amateur motorcycle racer, he began to wonder why China produced no crash helmets of its own. So he took home an imported one, dismantled it and designed a new one.

He raised 2,000 renminbi (£300) from savings and the sale of his motorbike, bought himself an electric drill and was soon producing nine different kinds of helmet, under the brand name "Soaring".

Before long Liu had begun to export to the United States, selling at about one fifth of the price of American helmets. He is now managing director of a venture between a Chinese state corporation, an American company and his own firm, the largest share-holder of the three.

His salary of £100 a month seems modest, but is still more than any of China's leaders earns. He also receives a yearly bonus of £15,000, which helps provide a lifestyle more like that of an upwardly mobile young Londoner than of an average member of the All China Youth League.

His company headquarters, a low concrete building outside Peking, provides a stark contrast to the immaculate potted plants, fancy hi-fi and modern Western furniture of his home.

Liu himself sports a leather jacket, a necessary part of the uniform in China of self-made entrepreneurs. He has a street-wise, confident air. According to some reports, however, he was once so worried about his growing wealth that he asked his American clients to make their payments into special private accounts in the United States. He denies this, saying he has no desire to save money. Instead, he reinvests it, partly in China's burgeoning stock market.

Targets

Today, there are some 20 million Chinese like Liu, self-employed or working in private business. But they still represent less than five per cent of the total workforce, and they remain the targets of much envy and of widespread suspicion.

There are countless examples of corrupt state officials on fixed low incomes taking revenge on the private sector with demands for specially invented taxes or outright bribes.

Liu admits it was hard at first persuading potential customers that he was not merely reselling state goods illegally. But his sales manager, Cheng Zhaoxing, insists that Liu has won the trust and respect both of his customers and his 62 workers.

Cheng compares the situation favourably with state-run factories, where workers have virtual immunity from being sacked, and spend much of the day sleeping. In his last job he was in charge of selling almost £2 million worth of state-owned car components a year, and was paid £11 a month — a fifth of his present salary. "When your boss works a 12-hour day himself and pays you well," he says, "you do not mind putting in more effort yourself. If you don't fulfil your quota in this company, you're fired."

Reflexes

Unlike the handful of pre-1949 capitalists who have regained some of their lost fortunes since Deng Xiaoping came to power, Liu is a thoroughbred product of socialism. He refuses to accept that his brand of capitalism is the same as the corrupt Western kind he learned about in school. But when asked what the differences are, he says he is unable to explain.

"We are not capitalists, because we are building socialism," is the response of Guan Guangmei, a 37-year-old woman who rescued a grocery chain from bankruptcy and now earns 20 times as much as her staff. A public debate over the rights and wrongs of her case ended with her being elected as a delegate to the Communist party congress.

Liu says he has no interest in becoming a politician, even though he appreciates that in China business still comes second to politics. "No matter how much money you make, you cannot challenge their power," he says.

He is not afraid, like many whose property was confiscated during the Cultural Revolution, that policies will change and being rich will suddenly become a crime again. A more immediate concern is how to escape the official adulation for long enough to go on making money.

For Liu Xiang is well aware that, if profit starts turning to loss, he will go the way of Comrade Lei Feng and other one-time heroes, later judged to be not worth emulating after all.



Liu Xiang: earns more than any of the country's leaders

By Kathy Cuddihy

IT'S that time of year when everyone straggles back from a long summer holiday, swelling the population once again. People with school-age children are always the most punctual in their return. I'm not quite sure whether they feel a sense of obligation to register the kids in school on time, or whether it's a sense of desperation to get the little darlings out of their hair.

Returning to a routine, for most of us, means starting the day at an unearthly hour of the morning. To me, it has always seemed just a little unnatural to rise before the sun does, but unfortunately this reservation doesn't make a scrap of difference to our own particular routine.

Getting myself up early is often difficult enough, but waking the children up in time to catch their school bus makes getting blood from a rock look easy.

These children are the same little people who insist that they're not babies anymore so, they argue, why should they have to go to bed at baby hours? These are also the same little people who, as I'm yelling at them to hurry up or they'll miss the bus, yell back at me that their tardiness is all my fault.

"Why can't you make sure we wake up early? You know we like to get to the bus before the other kids."

"But I wake you up in plenty of time," I sputter defensively. "You insist on going back to sleep."

"Right, Mom. So if you're aware of the situation, why don't you start working on us half an hour earlier?"

There could well be some logic to their suggestion,

Back to routine



but I don't feel especially inclined to deprive myself of the extra sleep to see if the plan would work.

Mothers also have a few other routines to which they must quickly adjust at this time of the year. Worse, infinitely worse, than getting everyone moving in the morning, is the ordeal of preparing lunch boxes. It's not that I can't think of nourishing delights that my darlings are prepared to eat! Oh, the lunchboxes come home empty at the end of the day, but tell-tale junk food wrappers reveal that they have had wonderful successes trading raw carrots for popcorn, chicken legs for chewing gum, and chocolate milk for chocolate bars. Someone in the school is

eating and enjoying my nutritious preparations, but too seldom is it my own children. Obviously when I hit on an acceptable wholesome food, I stock up. Inevitably, when I stock up, the kids go off the product and I'm left to devour quantities of quickly spoiling fruit, or other foods with a limited lifespan. More than once I've come close to admitting that barter might not be such a bad idea.

The traumas of settling into the going-back-to-school routine don't end when the precious dears go out the door, because chances are you'll be going out the door with them if it's your turn to be the school bus monitor. This assignment would exceed the lunchbox chore in jobs-

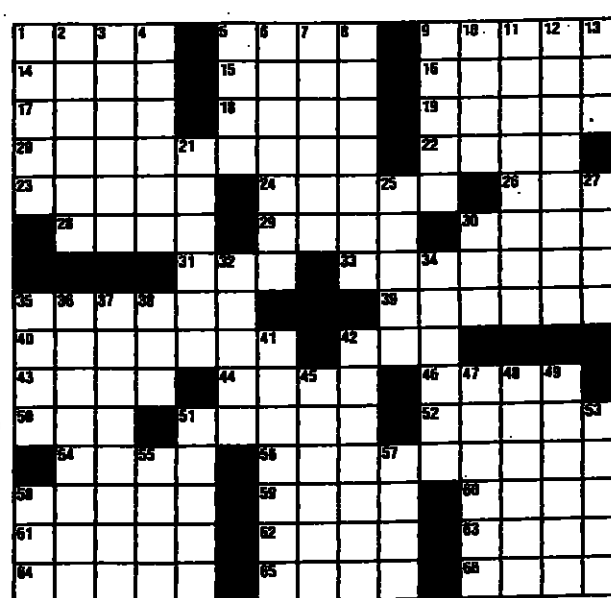
I-hate status, except that I only have to do it for two weeks out of the school year. Still, it's two weeks too many. Sitting on an unairconditioned bus, trying to keep a mob of unruly characters from crossing that fine line between youthful playfulness and juvenile delinquency, is not my heart's desire. If I want to feel harassed, intimidated, and/or ignored, I can sit in the comfort of my home and ask my children to clean their rooms.

Last, but definitely not least, is the agony of helping with homework. I could barely cope with last year's math problems and science projects. What on earth am I going to do this year now that the children are a year older? I know I'm not ready for algebra because I wasn't ready 26 years ago. Unfortunately, there's nothing to indicate that my skills might have improved since then.

Of course, I'm experienced enough to know that there will be other little surprises during the school year. You know, the usual catastrophes like, "Mom, I forgot to tell you. I need you to make me a costume for the school play. The dress rehearsal is tomorrow." Or, "Mom, we're having a class party tomorrow. I said you would provide all the refreshments." But these sorts of things rarely happen in September, probably because the school officials want to break the parents in gently... or relatively gently.

I wonder if I sent the principal a note saying that the kids are fine but the mother is fading fast, would he give me a few days' reprieve from early mornings, lunch boxes, bus monitoring, and homework?

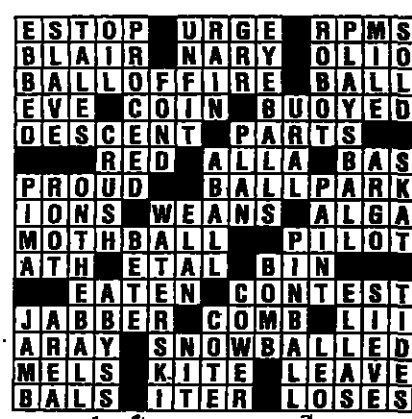
TODAY'S CROSSWORD



ACROSS

- 1 "Revival" sites
- 5 Religious group
- 9 Moldboard
- 14 Cause for a suit
- 15 Wheel
- 16 Connector
- 17 He leads a good life
- 19 General Bradley
- 18 Raced
- 19 Ikon
- 20 "Do-gooder" of old
- 22 Vocalist Vikki
- 23 Part of a place setting
- 24 Eskimo's boat
- 26 Crop
- 28 They're the tops
- 29 Singer Joanna
- 30 Observance
- 31 Williams of baseball
- 33 Polish-Czech region
- 35 Split up
- 39 Loose robe
- 40 Fiddler of a summer's night?
- 42 Vigor
- 43 Have pains
- 44 — Wolfe, Stout's stout sleuth
- 46 Dramatist O'Casey
- 50 Shackie
- 51 Fundamental
- 52 Arena surprise
- 54 Prefix with morph or carp
- 56 Hamelin figure
- 58 Globular tear-jerker
- 59 Peruvian
- 60 Counsel, once
- 61 Stryker
- 62 Saturn
- 63 Pac-10 power
- 64 More reasonable
- 65 Neighbor of Padua
- 66 Proofreader's word
- DOWN
- 1 Wood ibis
- 2 City near Los Angeles
- 3 Describing some numerals
- 4 Discard
- 5 Obi's relative
- 6 State in detail
- 7 Spider flower
- 8 Undergarments
- 9 Building block
- 10 Bean capital?
- 11 Rumor spreader
- 12 By favor: Law
- 13 Part of a 49 Down
- 21 Stacked, in a way
- 25 Wonderland visitor
- 27 Withdraw by degrees
- 30 Ump's colleague
- 32 Neighbor of Minneapolis
- 34 Swallows, as flattery
- 35 Card game
- 36 Home on the pampas
- 37 Plato, for one
- 38 Bakery purchase
- 41 Loathe
- 42 Skunk's relative
- 45 Actress Ella
- 47 Area of NW Greece
- 48 Outlook
- 49 Sewing need
- 51 Student's howler
- 53 Actor Williams
- 55 Venetian magistrate
- 57 Title for Margot Fonteyn
- 58 New World org.

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
A LITTLE HELP FROM A FRIEND

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ Q 10 8 5
♥ Q J 5 3
♦ K J
♣ Q 4 2

WEST
♠ 4 2
♥ A
♦ Q 9 8 7 6 4
♣ K 7 6 3

EAST
♠ 9
♥ 10 9 4 2
♦ 10 5 3 2
♣ A J 9 5

SOUTH
♠ A K J 7 6 3
♥ K 8 7 6
♦ A
♣ 10 8

The bidding:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 3 ♠ Pass
4 ♠ Pass 3 ♠ Pass

Opening lead: Ace of ♥

"Tips for Tops" (Devyn Press, 224 pp, paperback. Available from Bridge World, 39 W. 94th St., New York, N.Y. 10024 at \$9.95 post free) is the latest book by George Rosenkranz. It consists of articles published in the ACBL Bulletin, many of them expanded. It is loaded with sage advice, and each chapter ends with a tip summarizing the author's thinking on that section. This hand is from the chapter entitled *Make Sure Partner Does the Right Thing*. North-South reach a normal four-spade contract after a limit raise by North. You lead your singleton ace of hearts, and partner plays a discouraging defence. You shift to the two of clubs, and give

yourself a pat on the back when partner's jack wins the trick. Partner continues with the ace of clubs as declarer follows with the king, and ten to these two tricks. Partner foresees any danger and—what do you do about it?

Obviously, there is a play that partner will try to cash. Partner knows that a heart ruff will be a ruff. A third club might live, but you know that a heart ruff will be a ruff. You can direct partner to the sure-trick defence by dropping your king of clubs under the ace! Since you would have led the king from a doubleton, partner knows that a club continuation is futile and will revert to hearts.

The tip: If you are defending and you know how to beat the contract, take charge and stop partner from making an error in the clear. It's possible.

We could not have put it better ourselves.



"If you pretend to be asleep he goes away."



"And if the collection is as bad as last week, next week's sermon will be even longer!"

"We can't go on like this—my head's bursting with pictures of the future!"

Are you a leader or a loser?

By Alex Molloy

HOW do you rate in the leader stakes? Are you the sort of person who always makes the arrangements, or do you leave it to someone else? Are you a shepherd or a sheep, a lamb or a lion, a leader or a loser? Do this fun quiz, and find out if you have what it takes to be a leader.

1. At a restaurant the waiter seems to be ignoring you. Do you:

- (a) sit quietly hoping to be served soon?
- (b) ask another member of your party to call him over?
- (c) sit tapping your feet and yawning?
- (d) shout 'waiter' loudly?

2. What would your ideal evening class be:

- (a) Pottery?
- (b) Self assertiveness lessons?
- (c) Self defence?
- (d) Do you not need to learn anything new?

3. Your friend's bag has been stolen at a foreign airport. Do you:

- (a) burst into tears?
- (b) walk around until you find an English person?
- (c) cling to your friend, wondering what to do?
- (d) go find a policeman to get things sorted out?

4. How would you celebrate your birthday?

- (a) By staying at home?
- (b) Going to your local restaurant?
- (c) Arranging a wild night out on the town?
- (d) By letting your friends surprise you?

5. You meet someone you are instantly attracted to but they are shy. Do you:

- (a) smile and flirt but nothing else?
- (b) sit blushing every time you catch their eye?
- (c) tell their best friend?
- (d) ask them out the next time you see them?

6. When you played sport at school were you:

- (a) a team leader?
- (b) captain?
- (c) umpire?
- (d) ball person?

7. Would your favourite outfit be:

- (a) jeans and a shirt?
- (b) a pretty dress?
- (c) a suit?
- (d) evening dress?

8. A friend gets a party and asks for some help to get things ready. Do you:

- (a) race around and start giv-



ing orders?

- (b) say you would be happy to help, providing they tell you what to do?
- (c) start making sandwiches?
- (d) write the invitations and hire an entertainer?

9. What would your favourite pet be:

- (a) a parrot?
- (b) a kitten?
- (c) a tortoise?
- (d) a vicious dog?

10. A promotion comes up at work. Do you:

- (a) try to convince your boss you are perfect for the new position?
- (b) not bother to apply?
- (c) say nothing but hope you get it?
- (d) work harder than ever before?

11. When you got into trouble as a child, did you:

- (a) promise never to be naughty again and keep your promise?
- (b) promise never to be naughty again and lie?
- (c) show little sign of remorse?
- (d) you were always very good?

12. You start a business with a friend. Are you:

- (a) a silent partner?
- (b) manager?
- (c) accountant?
- (d) head of the board?

13. Your partner wants to start a family. Do you:

- (a) say no until you can afford it?
- (b) say 'What the hell'?
- (c) agree on the condition, you can choose the name and everything else connected?
- (d) refuse point blank?

14. A new neighbour steals your parking space. Do you:

- (a) not mention it?
- (b) leave a polite but firm note on their windscreen?
- (c) get home before he does so you can steal it back?
- (d) find somewhere else to park?

15. You want to go out while your partner does not. Do you:

- (a) stay in?
- (b) ring some friends and go out with them?
- (c) beg until your partner gives in?
- (d) go out by yourself?

Now see how you scored.

Mostly A's
You show all the signs of being a leader, but get nervous far too easily. Try a more positive approach and stop letting people intimidate you. By getting tough you could make an inspiring leader.

Mostly B's
Oh Dear! You are in desperate need of a healthy dose of confidence. Despite what people think you are not silly, just timid. Try looking at how you react to things. Then instead of following you could take the lead.

Mostly C's
You are very relaxed and behave according to your mood. You are happy leading or following and do not care what people think. But more often than not you end up taking orders rather than giving them. Get tough with yourself then others may feel you have the discipline to lead them.

Mostly D's
You certainly know what you want out of life. People jump at your command and that is just the way you like it. As far as leaders go, you have to be top of the heap. You are forceful, determined and willing. Keep this up and you will go far!



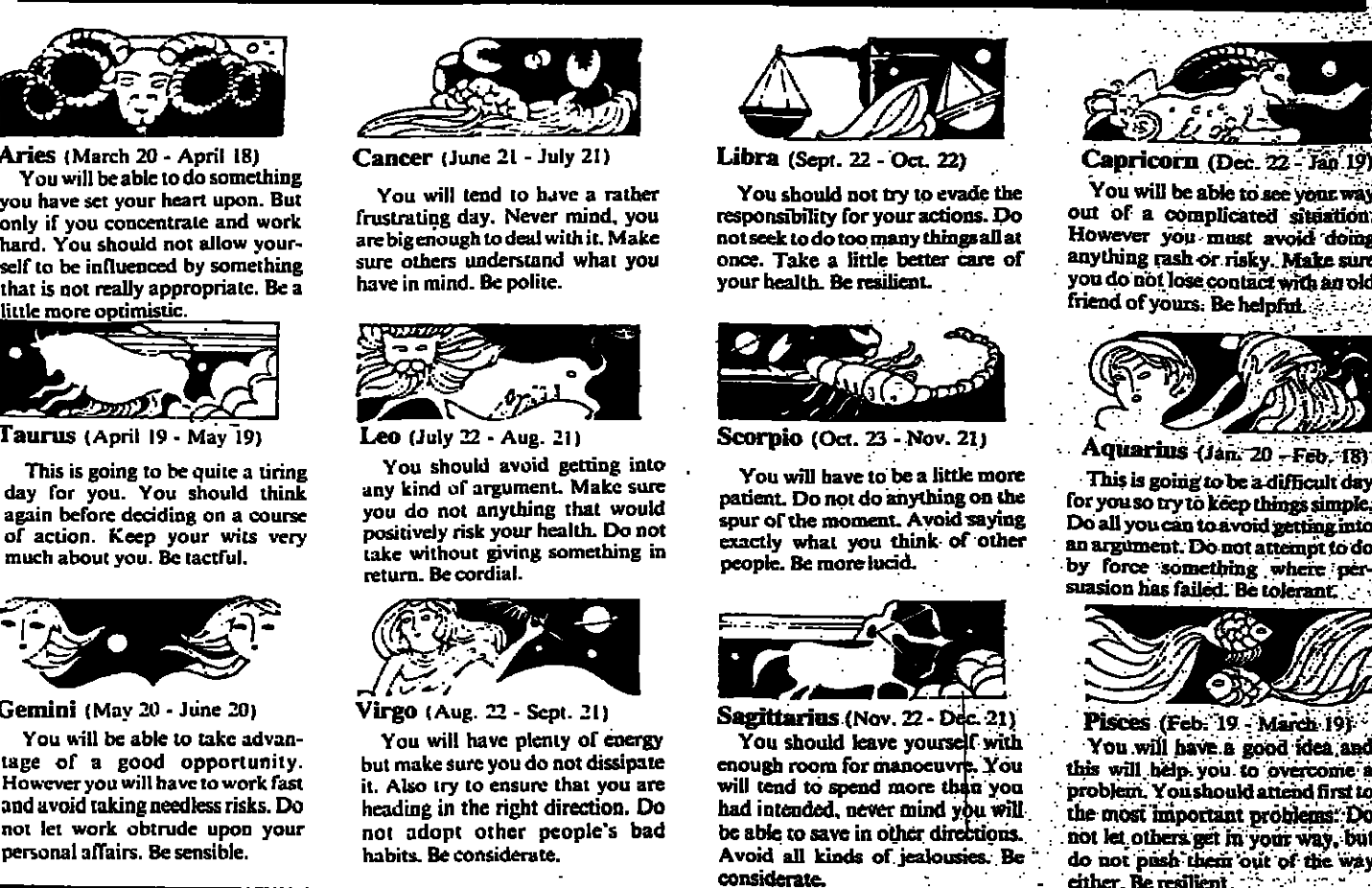
THE WIZARD OF ID



B.C.



YOUR STARS



BUSINESS & FINANCE

Oil prices remain firm in quiet and cautious markets

LONDON, Sept. 6. (KUNA): Oil prices remained firm in quiet and cautious markets as traders closely followed political developments after the ceasefire in the Gulf, analysts told KUNA today.

This morning, Britain's North Sea Brent, the most widely traded crude, was marked at \$14.35 a barrel for October shipments.

A variety of factors have combined to keep prices steady despite high oil production levels, according to Humphrey Harrison of the London-based Investment Company Kitcat and Aitken.

Negotiations towards great OPEC unity by Dr Subroto, the secretary general of the 13-strong organisation, along with a "relatively strong" oil product market, have both held the market up, said Harrison.

But he warned: "These two factors are perhaps the only two saving graces that the market has until November and the OPEC meeting."

Impact

He predicted that Iraq will agree to oil production parity with Iran, as "no one wants to see an oil price collapse."

In the meantime, the market faces a "very confusing" few months, Harrison said. "People are just sitting on their hands, not knowing which way things are going to go."

The portrait of uncertainty was confirmed by Mina Toksoz, editor of the Mid East forecasting unit of Business International, part of the economist group.

"The impact of the ending the war will definitely have a downward effect on prices in the medium-term, but in the short-term it is very difficult to tell," she told KUNA.

Islamic countries urged to avoid creation of new organisations

ISTANBUL, Sept. 6. (KUNA): Kuwait's Finance Minister Jasssem Al Khoraifi today urged Islamic countries' members of the Permanent Committee for Economic and Trade Co-operation to avoid creation of new organisations that will increase financial burdens.

Al Khoraifi is here to attend the Organisation of Islamic Conference's permanent committee meetings which began today. He also urged concerted action and co-operation with regional economic organisations to make the Islamic regional group an influential economic bloc in global economy.

Problems

In exclusive statements to KUNA before the OIC permanent committee's session, the official attributed the delay in results achieved by economic organisations of developing states to the complex internal economic problems faced by these countries.

Discussing the prospects of the emergence of an Islamic economic bloc, Al Khoraifi said this can be attained by co-ordination of efforts. The presence at today's meeting of member countries from African, Gulf and Asian organisations provides opportunity for exchange and contact with diverse regional blocs, he said.

The Islamic Permanent Committee for Economic and Trade Co-operation established the Islamic Development Bank, and is responsible for multilateral co-operation on food security, transport, trade and energy.

Al Khoraifi said he will confer with Turkish officials about implementing the bilateral accord ending taxation duplicity and the agreement to encourage and protect investments.

Turkish finance minister for Iraq

ANKARA, Sept. 6. (Reuters): Turkey's Finance and Customs Minister Kurtcebe Altıemecin left today for a three-day visit to Iraq to discuss economic and trade relations.

Officials said he would review developments after an economic commission meeting earlier this year.

The minister was accompanied by Yavuz Canevi, Undersecretary for the Treasury and Foreign Trade, and several members of the Union of Chambers of Commerce.

The issue of tens of thousands of Kurds from northern Iraq who have taken refuge in Turkey was not on the agenda, Altıemecin was quoted by the Anatolian News Agency as saying.

Another market 'setback in sight'

OECD now faces a recession

PARIS, Sept. 6. The economic upswing is almost over. The rich industrial member countries of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development now face a recession.

The cyclical recovery from the severe 1981-82 recession lasted longer than most, but apart from initially and lately, growth rates remained generally sluggish, reports a London daily.

A downturn was bound to come sooner or later. But the issue is whether it will be a mild one, as in the 1950s and 1960s, or a violent one as in the 1970s and early 1980s.

Growth

During the great prosperity (the two decades before the 1973-74 oil price explosion) output did not fall in the downward phase of each cycle. Even in the worst recession years, OECD growth remained positive, as the chart shows.

But following the first and the second oil price explosions, the recessions were particularly severe. In both cases, 1974-5 and 1981-2, OECD real output fell.

Moreover, in between these two sharp recessions, output growth barely kept pace with capacity growth, so that unemployment remained on a high plateau.

Happily economic forecasters today are predicting only a mild growth recession starting in 1989. The table shows the average of eight forecasting institutions' recently published predictions for growth and inflation in the main Group of Seven economies.

They are all expecting a slowdown in growth in every G7 country between this year and next. The average forecast for the OECD area as a whole (24 leading industrial countries), shows output slowing from 3.5 per cent this year — which is a little above the growth in capacity — to 2.3 per cent next year, which is a little below.

The case for a modest slowdown rests upon prospects for inflation. Everywhere prices are now rising faster than they were. Moreover inflation is expected to get marginally worse next year.

despite the slowdown in growth. But nowhere is inflation likely to go back to the levels between 1972 and 1982.

Moderate stagflation is on the cards, not the ghastly slumpflation of those years. This makes good sense. The factors which caused slumpflation have largely disappeared.

Supplies

The end of the Gulf war is more likely to boost than reduce oil supplies, so the danger of another oil price explosion is minimal.

In most countries where wages are sensitive to the level of unemployment (Britain excepted), the dole queues remain long. Unemployment has fallen sharply in America and remains low in Japan. But neither suffers significantly from wage-push inflation.

But if the dangers of a return to rampant inflation are slight, why the need for a slowdown in world growth? There is still enough idle capacity and there are still enough jobless workers in many places, particularly in Europe, to keep output expanding quickly.

The slowdown should sensibly be confined to those economies suffering serious overheating and with problems of external imbalance. Britain and America should be putting on the brakes; Europe and Japan should keep them off.

Rise

The trouble is that finance ministers and central bankers do not see it this way. Most remain old-fashioned monetarists at heart. They regard the rapid rise in money supply over the past couple of years, largely the consequence of efforts to finance America's continuing trade deficit, as the harbinger of inflation to come.

Few distinguish between inflation in labour and product markets, which has remained moderate, and inflation in asset prices — such as houses, real estate, old masters and company shares — which at various times has been explosive.

Excessive money supply growth has already had its inflationary effects in those

markets to which the growth in credit has been applied. The danger today is that growing monetary stringency will cause more than a mild slowdown in output.

Last year, according to Richard Jeffrey of Hoare Govett, the stockbrokers, the "stock market crash gave the world's monetary authorities a vivid display of the chaos that could be caused by careless interest rate changes." So they backed off.

The economic forecasters broadly concur. But higher rates and tighter credit reduce inflation by reducing demand. Much depends on how the confidence of consumers and investors is affected.

Thus, while the severity of the monetary squeeze being imposed is not fully appreciated, it will not be fully effective. Then, when full realisation dawns, it will produce overkill. So far, Jeffrey says, "finance ministers and central bankers have been able to deceive equity markets." But he believes that another market setback is in sight.

New supplies will take two months to arrive in Kuwait

Demand for tyres reduced to a trickle

By Jadranka Porter

TYRE dealers in Kuwait have emptied their warehouses holding strategic stocks after a flood of customers from Iraq bought tens of thousands of tyres for Japanese cars and light trucks, bringing an unexpected windfall to Kuwait's distributors.

The demand peaked just after the ceasefire in the Iran-Iraq war and has now been reduced to a trickle, partly because the immediate need was met, but also due to a considerable drop in

the Iraqi dinar rate of exchange. "Anyone who had a stock, he sold it," said a distributor. Supplies of tyres in five different sizes sought by Iraqis for Japanese cars are now low, he said.

Kuwait's distributors, who sell a minimum of 200,000 tyres a year, have doubled and trebled their orders with the manufacturers. New supplies will take two months to arrive in Kuwait.

Reputable dealers have maintained sufficient stocks to meet the domestic demand. "We are happy to increase our sales, but

our main concern is not to alienate the local customers," said one distributor.

Many dealers relished the unexpected business, particularly because the goods were paid for in cash.

Dealers' comments about price increases varied. Some said that prices went up, while others claim that the usual discounts of 10 to 12 per cent were reduced to 5 to 8 per cent. Tyre prices in Kuwait are ruled by supply and demand.

Tyre manufacturers raised

prices three months ago. The increase ranged from 7 to 15 per cent. When the demand soared last month, some of Kuwait's dealers added 5 per cent to prices which range from KD 6 to KD 80 per tyre, depending upon the size and quality.

Measures

The sudden influx of Iraqi customers came in the wake of Iraqi government measures to boost the private sector. Dealers said that the Iraqi government is printing an increasing number of import licences.

This has given the Iraqis extra cash to buy consumer goods in Kuwait.

Dealers in Kuwait do not expect another surge in demand for tyres. They said they believe that manufacturers will resume direct shipments to Iraq in three months. They said that it would be far more profitable for Iraqis to order tyres directly from the manufacturers since the official rate of exchange for Iraqi dinar is about US \$3. In Kuwait, one Iraqi dinar is worth a little over one US dollar.

Pound's sudden drop signals trouble ahead for Lawson

LONDON, Sept. 6. The British pound's sudden weakness on foreign-exchange markets last week signals tougher times ahead for Chancellor of the Exchequer Nigel Lawson, in managing the economy, according to the Wall Street Journal.

Economists in London's city financial district said sterling's decline, if it continues, could force further increases in UK interest rates. Since early June, bank base rates have risen to 12 per cent from 7.5 per cent.

Officials at both the British Treasury and the Bank of England hope the late-August one-percentage-point jump in base rates to 12 per cent will be sufficient to damp excessive demand and to reduce the monthly current-account deficit from July's record \$2.15 billion (\$3.4 billion). But they say the present strategy will take time to have an effect, and could be buffeted by bad inflation or balance-of-payments figures in coming months.

Pressure

As sterling came under pressure late last week, Bank of England officials said the British central bank intervened "modestly but persistently" on late Thursday and early Friday to halt its fall.

In London, the pound recovered against the dollar to trade at \$1.6735 on Friday afternoon, unchanged from Thursday afternoon. But it fell against the Deutsche mark to DM3.1197 from DM3.1445.

Some London analysts expect British authorities to try supporting the pound through intervention before resorting to another base-rate increase. The Bank of England has plenty of foreign exchange to support the pound. Treasury figures released on Friday showed that Britain's gold and foreign-currency reserves totalled \$50.6 billion at the end of August, up from \$49.8 billion in July and from \$34.4 billion in August 1987.

Gavin Davis, chief UK economist at Goldman Sachs International Corp. in London, said the Bank of England is reluctant to raise base rates and would rather unload reserves to stabilise sterling. But Bill Martin, chief UK economist of stockbrokerage Phillips & Drew, said the pound's decline raises "the distinct danger" of an interest-rate overshoot. Base rates "could go to 13 per cent and quite possibly 14 per cent" before pressure on sterling stops, he said.

Analysts differed over whether the pound's weakness reflects a downgrading of sterling by foreign-exchange markets or the temporary effect of computerised stop-loss orders in a thin market as sterling fell through a DM3.14 chart point.

But they agreed that Lawson, who returned from vacation yesterday, will face bigger problems managing sterling and the economy if the foreign-exchange market decides that the Deutsche mark again merits consideration as a hard currency, on the strength of West Germany's strong export performance and improving growth prospects.

Weaker sterling and higher interest rates in Britain pose serious political risks for Lawson and Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's Conservative government. The late-August rise in base rates has yet to work through into Britain's market-related mortgage interest-rate structure.

Mortgage rates currently stand at around 11.5 per cent, and they are likely to rise to around 12.75 per cent if base rates stay at 12 per cent. But a further base-rate increase to 13 per cent would trigger higher mortgage rates of perhaps 13.75 per cent — some four percentage points above the level of two months ago.

Bubble

Goldman Sachs's Davies said higher rates could burst a "speculative bubble" that has been allowed to develop on Britain's housing market. Greatly increased mortgage repayments and a possible fall in house prices would hit traditional Conservative voters, especially in the overheated economy of southeast Britain.

Kuwait money supply soars

THE Central Bank of Kuwait yesterday said that the country's monetary developments in the local market.

The money supply totalled KD 4843 million, an increase of KD 23 million or 0.5 per cent above its level in the previous month, the statement said.

The increase was due to the change in money supply components at varied rates, represented by the rise in time deposits (1.9 per cent) and deposits denominated in foreign currencies (1.8 per cent). However, sight deposits, savings deposits and currency in circulation dropped by 2.5 per cent, 2.6 per cent and 0.9 per cent respectively.

Decline

The money market interest rates of last July on interbank KD deposits recorded a relative decline on all maturities. The decline was most pronounced in rates on short-term deposits (overnight, one week or one month), while the decrease in rates on deposits between three months and one year were slight in general, it added.

The US dollar exchange rate ranged in July 1988 between 281.55 fils and 283.98 fils, a monthly average of 282.59 fils. Thus, the monthly average of the KD exchange rate declined 2.0 per cent against the dollar compared to the previous month, the statement said.

The KD exchange rate against major currencies was more stable than that of the dollar against the Swiss franc, pound sterling and other foreign currencies. The

dollar exchange rate rose higher than those of the KD against these currencies, it added.

The aggregate balance sheet of local banks recorded a slight decline of 0.38 per cent (or KD 48 million) below the previous month's level, thus amounting to KD 12,701 million, it said.

Deposits

The decline in assets was due to an increase in banks' balances with the Central Bank (KD 26 million), local investments (KD 5 million) and foreign assets (KD 13 million). There was a decrease in cash and cash items with banks (KD 16 million) and other assets (KD 68 million), including inter-bank deposits in foreign currency.

As for liabilities, private sector deposits with local banks rose by KD 35 million and the shareholders equity increased by KD 18 million. Government deposits with local banks and foreign liabilities of these banks dropped by KD 30 million and KD 10 million respectively.

The rise in local banks' foreign assets on one hand, and the decline in their foreign liabilities on the other, led to an increase in their net foreign assets by KD 43 million (or 3.5 per cent).

At the end of July 1988, the total balance of public debt issues kept its previous month's level at KD 194.5 million. The Central Bank offered the seventeenth issue of Treasury bills with the amount of KD 70 million. The ninth issue of these bills (KD 70 million) matured.

Overseas firms arrive with new capital equipment

Foreign investment in US under review

WASHINGTON: Now that the dust has settled on the new trade law, the issue of foreign investment in the United States is becoming the next major public-policy issue in international business relations. Proposals are being generated at a rapid pace to restrict foreign investment.

In some quarters, the reaction to foreigners' "buying up America" has approached near hysteria. The litany is familiar. America is "losing control of its economic destiny." If current trends continue, the US will become a wholly owned subsidiary of "Japan Inc." A careful examination of the facts seems appropriate.

The fact is that foreign investment in the US is on the rise and for sound business and economic reasons. The US constitutes an extremely attractive market. Many multinational companies that have not already done so feel that compelled to establish — or expand — their presence in this country. The relative weakness

of the dollar — compared with its peak in early 1985 — makes US assets a bargain. The huge US trade deficits — the mirror image of the outside budget deficits — have been putting more than \$100 billion a year into foreign hands. From the viewpoint of jobs in America — and tax collections by the Treasury — we should be pleased that foreign investment comes here rather than elsewhere.

Investment

Furthermore, the amount of foreign investment in the US is greatly exaggerated in the public mind by publicity about large real estate investments in Hawaii, California, and New York. In the aggregate, foreigners own only 5 per cent of US corporate assets and less than 2 per cent of American farmland. In the case of real estate, only 5 per cent of the foreign-owned properties are Japanese, compared with 60 per cent for the leading foreign investors, the Canadians.

The vast majority of foreign holdings are passive portfolio investments in securities, including US government debt, not in ownership of companies, land, or real estate. Contrary to widespread belief, the largest and most aggressive foreign investors in the US come not from Japan, but Britain. Britain's new direct investment in companies and real estate increased 50 per cent in 1987 over 1986, to almost \$75 billion. The Netherlands is in second place, with \$52 billion. And Japan, with \$30 billion, is a distant third.

The general public is also unaware that the US owns far more foreign business assets than foreigners own in this country. American companies and individuals, not the Japanese or the British, are the world's largest foreign investors.

The officially reported total of US direct investment abroad reached \$300 billion in 1987 (based on "book value"), compared with foreign direct investment in

the US of \$261 billion. In many instances, the value of US investment abroad is much greater than indicated by official figures, which are based on the price paid at the time of investment, most of it years ago.

Hegemony

Those who remember recent history can recall that, just a few decades ago, French and other continental writers were bemoaning the prospect of vast investments on that side of the Atlantic by large American companies. Their professional worries wrote that the US was "buying up the Continent," and would soon wield economic and political hegemony over Europe. Nothing of the sort has happened. Now the show is on the other foot, and it pinches just as much — or as little.

The Japanese, whose cultural propensity is for consensus building, seldom engage in hostile takeovers, even in Japan. Nor do they try to buy out large US companies. Bridgestone Corpora-

tion's purchase of Firestone was a notable exception. And in that case, Bridgestone took over a troubled company and ended up rehiring most of the laid-off employees. The fact is, the US benefits from foreign investment. Foreign investment generates jobs in this country — an estimated 3 million of them, currently, paying \$80 billion annually in wages.

Moreover, jobs are only part of the picture. Foreign companies arriving on US shores with new capital equipment and management techniques may strike fear in the hearts of some existing businesses that have grown complacent. But the new competition is a big plus for American consumers. The stimulus it provides US companies to increase their own productivity forces America to enhance its national competitiveness. That is a far more positive and desirable reaction than another wave of government restriction.

The Christian Science Monitor.

World Business Summary

Oil prospects seen for Australia and Indonesia

CANBERRA, Sept. 6. (Reuters): A thaw in relations between Australia and Indonesia could help free a billion barrels of oil in the disputed Timor Sea, which separates the two countries. "We obviously have to acknowledge that relations have improved substantially," Foreign Minister Gareth Evans said of an agreement by the two countries at the weekend to settle a nine-year wrangle and co-operate in the search for oil. Relations, strained over the Timor Sea border line, were aggravated by an Australian newspaper report in 1986 critical of President Suharto. Indonesia barred Australian journalists and only recently resumed ministerial visits to Australia. The agreement "is a good sign that relations are very much back on course and capable of producing major constructive results," Evans told reporters today. Under the agreement, the two countries will continue talks on the border dispute while co-operating in the search for oil in the so-called Timor Gap region of the sea. Both sides are cautious about prospects in the Timor Gap. "We think we have a billion barrels of something down there. It could be oil, gas or just water," Australian government officials said today. Under a compromise, the Gap will be divided into three areas: one administered by Indonesia and another by Australia and the third jointly. The jointly administered middle area has the best prospective and over the next 12 months officials from the two countries will resolve issues such as customs and mining legislation and propose a site for headquarters.

California Savings and Loan bailout most costly ever

WASHINGTON, Sept. 6. (AP): The federal government's \$2-billion bailout of American Savings and Loan Association of Stockton, California, will be the most costly rescue ever of a single savings institution. The Federal Home Loan Bank board announced the plan on Monday, with Chairman M. Danny Wall saying the agency will provide \$500 million in promissory notes and at least another 1.5 billion in cash assistance over the next 10 years. The California Savings and Loan was the nation's largest insolvent savings institution. The largest previous rescue of a single savings and loan was a \$1.3-billion infusion last November into Vernon Savings and Loan Association in Texas. The Robert M. Bass Group of Fort Worth, Texas, will infuse \$500 million in private funds and assume control of the California Institution, which is owned by Financial Corp. of America, Irvine, California. The bank board will own 30 per cent of the institution and will receive 75 per cent of the tax benefits arising from the transaction. Wall said Bass and negotiators for the bank board struck a deal late on Friday and the board approved the agreement shortly after midnight on Saturday. He said the board decided to delay announcing it so the news would appear in newspapers on a business day. Financial Corp. of America, with \$30.2 billion in assets at the end of June, is the nation's second-largest thrift holding company, after Los Angeles-based H.F. Ammons and Co. Financial Corp. first came under regulatory scrutiny in 1984 when it suffered a \$6.8-billion run on deposits that sent shock waves through the industry. Another \$490-million deposit run in the first two months of this year prompted regulators in March to promise to protect all of American's depositors, even those with more than a \$100,000 insurance limit.

S. Africa grants first licence to Islamic bank

JOHANNESBURG, Sept. 6. (Reuters): An Islamic bank has gained a licence from South Africa's Central Bank for the first time after repeated applications over the past seven years. South African state-run radio reported yesterday. The Reserve Bank granted the application to Islamic Corporation, which plans to operate without charging interest, forbidden by the Quran. Borrowers will pay a fee instead. "Until now the authorities have turned down applications from the group because of the Islamic Corporation's stance on not charging interest and several other factors relating to the Islamic culture which were not compatible with South African banking laws," the radio news said. South Africa's Foreign Minister P.W. Botha said in June that as he understood the religious prohibition on interest, he had personally intervened with the Central Bank to grant a licence. He said that because of differences between South African Muslims two banks could eventually be licensed. Islamic Corporation's chief executive Ebrahim Kharsany told reporters the licence would enable the bank to offer a full range of services. The latest application was its 11th. There are more than 70 Islamic banks worldwide, controlling between \$25 billion and 30 billion. Rather than charge or pay interest, the banks claim a share in the profits of corporate borrowers and reward their depositors with a share of their own profits. A census in 1980 showed there were 353,000 Muslims in South Africa out of a total population of 25 million.

Consumer prices edge up

QUITO, Ecuador, Sept. 6. (UPI): Consumer prices in Ecuador edged up an average 5.75 per cent in August, but that figure does not reflect a large jump in gasoline prices last week, the government said yesterday. Ecuador posted accumulated inflation of 62.9 per cent for the 12-month period ending in August — the highest in its history. August inflation was up from 4.88 per cent in July, the National Census and Statistics Institute said. The August does not include price increase triggered by a devaluation of the currency, the sucre, and the doubling of gasoline prices on Aug. 30. The increases were ordered by President Rodrigo Borja Cevallos 21 days after coming to office. Borja accused his conservative predecessor, Leon Febres Cordero, of leading the nation to "economic and moral bankruptcy." As part of the increase package, the Borja government banned automobile imports and ordered foreign companies to deposit hard currency in the cash-strapped Central Bank. Authorities said the measure would bring inflation down to an annual rate of 30 per cent in the next 12 months.

Sharjah imports, exports soar

SHARJAH, Sept. 6. (OPECNA): The value and volume of Sharjah imports and exports remarkably increased during the first half of 1988. It was reported here yesterday. A study by the Sharjah Customs Department said the volume of foreign trade reached 714,000 tons of goods worth over \$640 million. The report said imports included foodstuffs, livestock, machinery, chemicals and fuel. The imports came from about 70 countries, it said, adding that Japan topped the list with its value reaching \$59.38 million, followed by Taiwan \$20.70 million and the US \$17.70 million. The study added that Sharjah's total imports from Arab countries reached about \$15 million. It noted that the emirate's exports had reached \$14.43 million with a volume of 220,000 tons over the same period. Sharjah is one of seven emirates forming the federal government of the United Arab Emirates.

Call to encourage private sector

ABU DHABI, Sept. 6. (OPECNA): The Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC) has urged its 10-member states to encourage the private sector to play a more active role in their national economies. In its 14th annual report, OAPEC also called for more emphasis on joint Arab projects, especially in natural gas and pipelines. The report said more co-ordination was needed between the organisation and OPEC member countries to achieve oil market stability. OPEC-OAPEC cooperation should focus on ways to limit the rising production from non-OPEC oil producers which it described as one of the "most decisive factors" behind declining world demand from Arab oil.

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

ARAB TIMES, WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 1988

International Bond Highlights

Tokyo — The Finance Ministry will auction 40 pct of its monthly issues of 10-year government bonds from April 1989, a ministry official said. A spokesman said it will raise the underwriting share of foreign banks and brokers in these bonds to eight pct from 2.5 pct from October. (RTX0824, RTX0832)

London — Hydro Quebec is issuing a 150 mln US dir 10-year Eurobond paying 9-3/4 pct and priced at 101-1/2 pct, lead manager Credit Suisse First Boston Ltd said. (RTUK 1441)

Zurich — Japan's Kansai Electric Power Co Inc is launching a 400 mln Swiss franc 4-3/4 pct six-year bond priced at 100-3/4 pct, lead manager Union Bank of Switzerland said. (RTX0831)

Frankfurt — Banque Exterieur d'Algerie is issuing a 150 mln mark bullet five-year par priced Eurobond with a seven pct coupon, lead manager DG Bank — Deutsche Genossenschaftsbank said. (RTX0808)

Tokyo — Takiron Co Ltd said it will issue 110 mln marks in five-year warrant bonds in overseas markets excluding the US (RTX0822) in Frankfurt, lead manager Bayerische Vereinsbank AG said the coupon has been indicated at 1-3/4 pct. (RTX0815)

Interbank Rates

CALL	ONE MONTH	THREE MONTHS
10-3/4 1/2	11-7/8 3/4	12-5/16 3/16
4.70/80	4.80/90	4.95/5.05
7-9/16 11/16	7-5/8 3/4	7-15/16 8-1/16
1-5/8 1-7/8	3-1/8 3-3/8	3-3/8 3-5/8
7.00	7-1/8 3/16	7-7/16 9/16
10.10-1/2	11.11-1/2	11-1/8 11-5/8
5.18/31	5.34/44	5.46/56
3.8125 8750	4.2500 3125	4.1250 1875
7.06 7.31	7.31 7.43	7.50 7.62

Interest Rates

FOLLOWING are the average KD interest rates of local interbank transactions as reported by participants to Central Bank of Kuwait yesterday.

Period	Bid	Offered
1 month	6-1/16	6-5/16
3 months	6-1/16	6-5/16
6 months	6-1/8	6-7/16
1 year	6-3/16	6-1/2

BOMBAY

PR. CLOSE	OPEN	CLOSE	GLINDIA	59.50	62	59	NICO	620	605	610	
ACC	255	255	252	GRASIN	106	107	103.50	NOCIL	632.50	635	620
ASIA-PAC	175	172.50	171.75	GSFC	147.50	148	145.50	ORWAY	28	28	27
BALAJI AUTO	265	263.75	258.75	HIND LEVER	72.50	74.50	72.50	PEICO	29.50	29	30
BALAJI RAYON	239	245	240	WINDALCO	101	102	102	PFIZER	61	60	60
BOM DYEING	110	110	106	HINDCOCCA	90	90	90	PRE-AUTO	29.50	29.50	29
BSE INDEX	606.26	606.26	620.31	IND ORG	31.50	31.50	31	RELIANCE	205	204	198
CENTURYSPG	1045	1045	1040	INDRAYON	--	67	67.25	SIEMENS	85.25	83	80.50
COLGATE	246.25	247.50	246.25	INDROL	168.75	170	167.50	SPIC	47.75	48.50	47.25
DEEPAKFERT	39	39	38.50	ITC	45	45	44	STONWILLS	250	250	250
EL. HOTEL	50	49	50	JCSYNTH	73	73	72	TATA PWR	225.75	220	222.50
ESKAYEP	122.50	123.75	122.50	L AND T	109.50	112	112.50	TATACHEH	79	79	79
ESSAYR	19	19	18.75	MAHINDRA	65	66.50	62.50	TELCO	700	697.50	696.25
GAR. POLY	77.50	77.50	77	MASTERSHR	10.60	10.50	10.25	TISCO	885	885	880
GE SHIP	29.50	29.50	28.85	NATHER PL	57	54	50	VOLTAS	345	345	352.50

FRANKFURT

STOCK	LAST PR. CLSE
AEG	202.6
ALLIANZ VR	1529.0
BADENWERK	175.0
BASF	261.5
BAYER	292.5
BAYER AG	335.0
BAYER VER.	333.0
BBC	301.5
BNP	426.0
BNP	492.0
COMMERZB.	230.0
CONTI GUMM	241.1
DATMER BEN	658.5
DEUTSCH B.	475.5
DLM	376.0
DRESDENER	268.0
DT. BAROCK	176.0
FZ. INDENIA	487.25
FELDMUEHL.	273.5
GOLDMANN	290.0
HARPER	432.0
HOECHST AG	283.2
HOECHST	154.0
HORTEN	198.0
NORDEN HLD	435.0
KALI SALZ	166.0
KARSTADT	432.0
KAUFHOFF	362.6
KLOECK H	142.0
KLOECK W	97.6
LINDE	677.0
LUFTHANSA	142.0
MAN	169.9
MANHESSEN	528.0
MERCKES	283.0
METALLUR.	427.0
MITSUBISHI	55.00
NIPPON HLD	600.00
PHILIP KON	533.0
PREUSSAG	175.0
RHEINMETAL	297.0
RWE	230.5
RWE P	214.0
SALAMANDER	265.3
SCHERING	499.0
SEL	276.0
SIEMENS	433.0
THYSEN	150.2
VARTA	272.0
VERA	257.0
VEW	159.5
VOLKSWAGEN	248.9

TOKYO

STOCK	LAST PR. CLSE	NITSUR CP	1080	1090
AJINOMOTO	2930	2930	NITSUR EL	901
AKAI ELEC	580	585	NITSUR EST	2230
AKAI	908	908	NITSUR IYU	845
ASAHI GLS	1880	1870	NITSUR IYU	810
ASAHI OPT	657	660	NITSUR IYU	810
BANK TOKYO	1560	1560	NITSUR IYU	810
BRIDGESTON	1290	1270	NITSUR IYU	810
CANON	1460	1480	NITSUR IYU	810
CASIO COMP	1420	1420	NITSUR IYU	810
CHUGAI PHM	1680	1610	NITSUR IYU	810
CITIZEN W	885	877	NITSUR IYU	810
D-ICHI KAN	2850	2850	NITSUR IYU	810
DAI NIP IK	792	776	NITSUR IYU	810
DAI NIP IT	2590	2590	NITSUR IYU	810
DAI NIP SC	1020	1050	NITSUR IYU	810
DAI NIP TO	616	610	NITSUR IYU	810
DAI NIP TO	805	817	NITSUR IYU	810
DATAM SEC	2220	2200	NITSUR IYU	810
EBRA MFG	901	920	NITSUR IYU	810
EISAI	2080	2060	NITSUR IYU	810
FUJITSU	1730	1750	NITSUR IYU	810
FUJITSU	3100	3070	NITSUR IYU	810
FUJITSU	3540	3540	NITSUR IYU	810
FUJITSU	1820	1840	NITSUR IYU	810
FUJITSU	710	710	NITSUR IYU	810
FUJITSU	1650	1660	NITSUR IYU	810
HITACHI	2090	2090	NITSUR IYU	810
HITACHI	2200	2220	NITSUR IYU	810
ITO YOKADO	4020	4040	NITSUR IYU	810
JAP SYN R	1080	1070	NITSUR IYU	810
JAPAN AIR	13900	14000	NITSUR IYU	810
JAPAN NET	639	596	NITSUR IYU	810
KAJIMA	1370	1370	NITSUR IYU	810
KANSAI EL	2950	2920	NITSUR IYU	810
KAO SOAP	1700	1700	NITSUR IYU	810
KAWASAKI S	594	595	NITSUR IYU	810
KIRIN BEER	1880	1890	NITSUR IYU	810
KOMATSU	726	730	NITSUR IYU	810
KUBOTA LTD	717	722	NITSUR IYU	810
KYOCERA	5570	5610	NITSUR IYU	810
MAKITA EL	1610	1610	NITSUR IYU	810
MARUI	2930	2950	NITSUR IYU	810
MATSUBA EL	2570	2600	NITSUR IYU	810
MATSUBA EL	0	2660	NITSUR IYU	810
MEIJI SEIK	940	925	NITSUR IYU	810

Tokyo Stock Market Report

TOKYO STOCKS CLOSE DOWN SLIGHTLY, OFF LOWS
TOKYO, SEPT 6, REUTER - SHARE PRICES CLOSED SLIGHTLY DOWN, BUT OFF THE DAY'S LOWS, AFTER A FLUCTUATING, FEATURELESS SESSION THAT SAW FEW PLAYERS AND THIN TURNOVER, BROKERS SAID.
"THE MARKET WILL MOVE SIDEWAYS FOR WHILE, YOU'LL SEE SPURTS OF SPECULATIVE INTEREST AND THEN IT WILL MOVE DOWN ON SOME PROFIT-TAKING," ONE BROKER SAID.
"PEOPLE ARE STILL WORRIED ABOUT FOREIGN EXCHANGE AND INTEREST RATES," HE ADDED.
THE NIKKEI INDEX SLED 21.07 POINTS, OR 0.08 PCT, TO 27,320.51. IT LOST 146.66 POINTS ON MONDAY. VOLUME WAS UNCHANGED AT 500 MLN SHARES.
FALLS LED RISES BY 1.5 TO ONE.
SECURITIES HOUSE, RAILWAY/BUS, ELECTRICAL, AIRLINE, NON-FEEL INSURANCE, MINING, SERVICE, TRUCKING, PRECISION INSTRUMENT AND GLASS/CEMENT SHARES LED THE DECLINES.
OIL, PHARMACEUTICAL, TEXTILE, WAREHOUSE, GAS, FOOD, CREDIT/LEASE, STEEL, RANK AND RUBBER STOCKS LED THE GAINS.
THE MARKET RALLIED IN INITIAL TRADE, BRINGING THE INDEX TO A HIGH OF 27,449.48, BUT EDGED DOWNWARDS THEREAFTER WITH THE INDEX FINISHING A LOW 27,210.96.
SELLING PRESSURE CARRIED OVER FROM MONDAY AFTER SATURDAY'S SHARP 371.75-POINT RISE.
"I DON'T SEE STRONG SELLING PRESSURE. IT'S MAINLY SMALL ORDERS," SAID SHIGERU AKIBA, HEAD TRADER AT UBS PHILLIPS AND DREW INTERNATIONAL LTD.
PRICES RECOUPED SOME LOSSES BY THE CLOSE, MOSTLY ON BUYING OF LARGE CAPITAL ISSUES BY MAJOR JAPANESE SECURITIES HOUSES, BROKERS SAID.
ENERGY WAS SLACK WITH WALL STREET CLOSED OVERNIGHT FOR THE LABOUR DAY HOLIDAY AND INSTITUTIONAL INVESTORS STICKING TO THE SIDELINES. MOST HAVE REACHED THEIR TARGETS AND PREFER NOT TO INVEST IN A VOLATILE MARKET AHEAD OF CLOSING THEIR ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR AT THE END OF SEPTEMBER.

Hong Kong Stock Market Report

HONG KONG, SEPT 6, REUTER - SHARE PRICES EASED IN VERY THIN TRADING ON CAUTIOUS SENTIMENT WITH OPERATORS SIDELINED IN ANTICIPATION OF A CLEARER TREND, BROKERS SAID.
THE HANG SENG INDEX CLOSED 6.10 DOWN AT 2,502.09 AND THE HONG KONG DOLLAR INDEX 3.49 TO 1.655.46. TURNOVER WAS A SLOW 414.42 MLN H.K. DLS COMPARED TO MONDAY'S 688.42 MLN DLS.
"THE TONE IS CAUTIOUS," A U.S. HOUSE BROKER SAID. "THERE IS NO SENSE OF DIRECTION YET -- EVEN THE INITIAL TREND YESTERDAY WAS MAINLY SMALL RETAIL INTEREST, INSTITUTIONS WERE NET SELLERS."
THE HANG SENG INDEX ROSE OVER 60 POINTS ON MONDAY.

AMMAN

ALA-ADDIN COMPANY	CPNG	CLSG
ARAB ALUMINUM IND.		
ARAB BANK		
ARAB CHEMICAL DTR	3.95	4.00
ARAB FINANCE CORP.	1.38	1.38
ARAB INSURANCE		
ARAB INT. INV/TRAN.	0.98	0.98
ARAB INT. UNION INS	0.90	0.90
ARAB INT. HOTELS	0.53	0.58
ARAB JOR/INVT/BK	2.05	2.10
ARAB PAPER COM/TRD		
ARAB PHARMA/MANF.		
ARAB PHARMA/CHEN	0.76	0.75
ARAB POTASH CO.		
ARABIAN SEAS INS.	1.65	1.65
BANK OF JORDAN		
BELGIUM INSURANCE	1.00	0.95
CAIRO AMMAN BANK	28.00	28.00
CONFECT/CHOCOLATE	1.05	1.25
DAR AL SHAAB PRESS		
DAR AL SHAAB TV/INV.		
DARCO/INVEST/HOUS.		
FINANCE/CREDIT/COR		
GENERAL OWNERS OFF	3.65	3.55
GENERAL INSURANCE	2.39	2.63
GENERAL INVESTMENT	1.33	1.31
GENERAL MINING.	1.40	1.36
HIMEN MINERALS	0.75	0.75
HOLY LAND INS.		
IND./MATCH JENCO		
INDUSTRIAL DEVLPT B.	1.50	1.51
INDUSTRIAL/COM/AGR.		
INDUSTRIAL INVEST.	0.75	0.75
INTERCOM/INVT		
IRIDI ELECTRICITY	0.85	0.86
ISLAMIC INV. HOUSE	0.64	0.64
ITERMED/PETRI/CH		
J. TOUR-SP COMPLEX	0.79	0.79
JERUSALEM INS.	1.26	1.29
JOB TABCO/CIGARET	14.50	14.25
JOR CERAMIC FACTOR		
JOR EAGLE INS.	25.01	25.05
JOR ELECTRIC POWER		
JOR FINANCE HOUSE	0.93	0.93
JOR GLASS INDUSTRY		
JOR HOTEL TOURISM	2.50	2.30
JOR INDUSTRY CHEM.		
JOR INS AND FIN.	1.20	1.20
JOR LEASING CORP.	0.66	0.62
JOR LTH BRICK		
JOR MANAG/CONSULT	0.50	0.50
JOR NATIONAL BANK		
JOR PAPER CARDBRDG	3.18	3.24
JOR PHOSPHATE MINS	2.52	2.55
JOR PIPES MANUFACT	1.24	1.24
JOR PRESS/PUBLISH.	2.00	2.15
JOR PRINTING/PACK.	4.00	4.05
JOR ROCK WOOL IND.		
JOR SECURITY CORP.	0.73	0.73
JOR SELPHO CHEN		
JOR WOOD INDUSTRY		
JOR WORSTED MFG		
JOR. KUWAIT AGR	1.00	1.00
JOR. PETROLIUM REF		
JOR. FRENCH INS.		
JOR. INV. FIN. CORP		
JOR. KUWAIT REAL	0.29	0.29
JORDAN DAIRY		
JORDAN GULF BANK	1.18	1.18
JORDAN GULF INS.	0.94	0.95
JORDAN INSURANCE	13.85	13.90
JORDAN ISLAMIC B.		
JORDAN KUWAIT BANK		
JORDAN TANNING		
LIVESTOCK/POULTRY	0.68	0.65
MACH/VEH/RENT/MAIN		
MACH. BANK	0.69	0.73
MIDDLE EAST INS.	0.60	0.40
MIDDLE EAST INS.	60.00	60.00
MINEALS RESEARCH	0.60	0.55
M.FIN. INVEST CO.	1.75	1.71
NAT/CABLE/WIRE/MF		
NATIONAL AHLIA INS	1.22	1.22
NATIONAL INDUSTRY	0.39	0.39
NATIONAL PORTFOLIO		
NATIONAL STEEL		
ORIENT DRY BATTERY	0.25	0.28
PETRA BANK		
PETRA JOR. INS.	0.35	0.35
PHILADELPHIA INS.		
RAFA INDUSTRIAL	0.75	0.75
REAL ESTATE INV.	0.42	0.42
SHIPPING LINES	0.85	0.84
SPINNING WEAVING		
THE HOUSING BANK	1.98	1.96
UNITED INSURANCE	1.00	0.99
UNIVERSAL CHEM. IND		
UNIVERSAL INS.		
WOOLEN INDUSTRIES		
YARMOUK INSURANCE		

PHILIPPINES MAKATI

COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL SECTOR	BUY	SELL	OPEN	BC-A	69.50	70.00	70.00
STOCK				LC-A	43	44	44
AC-A	9.20	9.30	9.30	LC-B	45	46	45
AC-B	2.46	2.48	2.48	PH-A	33	34	34
AC-C	2.53	2.60	2.60	PH-B	34	35	35
GLO	33.50	34.00		OIL SECTOR			
PLDT	210.00	211.00	210.00	BP-A	0.018	0.019	0.018
PSI-A	1.90	2.36		BP-B	0.018	0.019	0.018
SMC-A	140.00	141.00	141.00	LRC-A	0.0032	0.0034	0.0034
SMC-B	226.00	226.00		LRC-B	0.0032	0.0034	0.0034
MINING SECTOR				OPM-A	0.029	0.03	0.03
APX-A	0.03	0.031	0.031	OPM-B	0.031	0.033	0.033
APX-B	0.03	0.031	0.031	OV-A	0.028	0.029	0.028
AT-A	18.75	19.00	19.50	OV-B	0.029	0.03	0.03

Makati Stock Market Report

OFFICIAL INFORMATION	SHARES	VALUE	AVERAGES	CHANGES
COMB IND	193,400	9,979,010	878.02	1.39 DN
MINING	60,685,300	15,996,200	4,304.01	35.39 DN
OIL	162,950,000	2,320,700	5.153	0.043 DN
TOTAL	223,428,700	28,295,910	753.36	4.04 DN

PHILIPPINES MANILA

COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL SECTOR							
STOCK	BUY	SELL	OPEN	BC-A	69.50	70.00	70.00
SMC-A	140.00	141.00	141.00	BC-B	82.00	92.00	
SMC-B	226.00	228.00	226.00	LC-A	.43	.44	.43
SD-TIRE		37.00		LC-B	.45	.46	.45
PLDT	210.00	211.00	210.00	ZIP	.009	.0095	
ANSCOR-A2.44	2.46	2.46		OIL SECTOR			
AC-A	9.20	9.40		STOCK	BUY	SELL	OPEN
GLO	33.50	34.00	33.50	BP-A	.017	.018	.018
FER-A	2.55	2.60	2.60	BP-B	.018	.019	.019
FER-B	2.60	2.65	2.65	LRC-A	.0032	.0034	
MINING SECTOR				LRC-B	.0032	.0036	
STOCK	BUY	SELL	OPEN	OPW-A	.03	.031	.03
APX-A	.05	.031	.031	OPW-B	.032	.033	.032
APX-B	.05	.031	.031	OV-A	.028	.029	.028
AT-A	19.00	19.25	19.75	OV-B	.029	.03	.029
AT-B	21.50	22.00		TA	.02	.021	.021

BUSINESS

Gold gains

Dollar eases and stock markets mixed

LONDON, Sept 6. (Reuters): The dollar fell today as dealers said they felt slightly more confident that no further interest rate hikes were on the horizon.

But investors remained cautious and stock markets were mixed in quiet trading.

"They're all waiting but no one knows what they're waiting for. Even with all the good economic news they still don't want to come in," a Paris share dealer said.

Wall Street stocks edged higher. The Dow Jones industrial average rose 3.73 points to 2,058.32 at midday. Tokyo, Paris and Sydney shares eased slightly. The dollar fell 1.25 pence to two-thirds a yen to close in Europe at 1.8425 West German marks and 135.30 yen. It traded at \$1.7035 to the pound sterling.

Gold was fixed in London this afternoon at \$428.45 an ounce, up \$1.05 from Monday afternoon.

Pressure

Dealers said that although the dollar might stay under pressure, American authorities might try to keep it from sliding much more before the November 8 presidential election.

"They're not going to want a

walling Wall Street going into the election," a London dealer said. After Friday's news that the US jobless rate for August rose to 5.6 per cent from 5.4 per cent, the dollar and gold dropped and stock prices around the world rallied.

The higher unemployment helped ease investors' concern that inflation was on the rise, and many dealers decided it ruled out any prospect of an American interest rate hike which would boost demand for dollar-denominated bank accounts and bonds.

But dealers said they are unsure whether stocks will keep rising.

"Now we are trying to ascertain the implication of Friday's number," said Marc Cohen of Republic National Bank of New York. US markets were closed on Monday for Labour Day.

Slipped

Earlier, Tokyo's 225-share Nikkei Average slipped 21.07 points to 27,320.51. Sydney's All-Ordinaries index lost 3.7 points to 1,568.2 and Hong Kong's Hang Seng index eased 6.10 points to 2,502.09.

"It's a very featureless market. People don't want to buy stocks

because of the uncertainty surrounding foreign exchange and interest rates," said Shigeru Akiba, head trader at UBS Phillips and Drew International Ltd in Tokyo.

In London, equity prices were well below the day's highs in moderate late business despite the higher Wall Street opening after a long holiday weekend there, dealers said.

The pound was stronger and UK money market interest rates were lower, relieving some of the recent upward pressure on base rates. However, the market remains concerned that base rates could go higher before the end of the year.

Firm

At 1453 GMT, the FTSE 100 share index was 6.3 points firmer at 1,770.8 after touching a high of 1,771.1. Volume was a modest 274.4 million shares at 1400 GMT.

Dealers said the market was now back to tracking Wall Street, where profit-taking there was eroding the early gains.

Dealers in London had foreseen that the New York market would be susceptible to profit-taking, as Friday's 52-point gain contained a good

element of short-covering.

A report today from the US National Association of Purchasing Management showing a slowing in the recent rapid economic expansion there, coupled with last week's smaller than expected rise in July employment, has helped sentiment.

Dealers are now cautiously optimistic that US interest rates will not have to rise further.

Dealers also said there was a slight easing in the UK of tension over interest rates. Although the pound was firmer today, foreign exchange rates can still be volatile, and few dealers see much upside potential for the market ahead of August's trade figures on Sept 27.

Sterling ended 0.4 basis points higher at 75.9 on its trade-weighted index while the key three-month sterling interbank rate, considered the best benchmark for British base rates, was 1/4 point easier at 12-1/8 12 per cent.

Excellent

One dealer said, "the market will probably remain calm and thin until we see the effect of the recent base rates rises."

Taylor Woodrow jumped another 37-1/2p to 625 on

speculation that P and O was stake-building ahead of a possible bid.

Analysts see Taylor Woodrow as an excellent fit with P and O. The increased speculation in Taylor Woodrow has helped to revitalise a large part of the construction sector, dealers said.

Analysts are hastily re-rating firms, especially those with large and property assets, some of which are now being seen as heavily undervalued.

In the construction sector, Wimpey was 9p higher at 245, in common with AMEC at 347, while Beazer added 6p to 174.

Glaxo, 7p higher at 977, made a representation to the Mergers and Acquisitions Committee in London on its new migraine drug. Analysts said little new emerged but it helped to re-focus attention on Glaxo ahead of results due out this month.

In the wider chemicals sector, ICI, 5p off at 1,013, held an analysts meeting in Glasgow and dealers said feedback so far had been generally positive. The sector is seen benefiting from lower oil prices and a sharp increase in demand for agro-chemicals in the US after the drought there this year.

Kuwaitis still prefer gold

By Lima Khalafawi

KUWAIT boasts some 2,000 shops selling the most popular of all precious metals — gold. In addition to the major gold souks of Mubarakia, Nugra and Kuwait City, there are more than 15 trading houses which deal in precious stones.

In the Arab world and in Asia, gold has long been considered both an investment and an index of a family's wealth. Ali Hussein, owner of a gold shop in Mubarakia, told the Arab Times, 22 carat gold is the most popular, he added.

According to Abdulla Al Arbash, another shop owner, the gold market witnessed a boom prior to the Iran-Iraq war. During the war years however, people became more cautious.

Representative of the fall in sales at that time is the case of a shop whose pre-war monthly transactions amounted to KD 40,000, but which managed something in the region of only KD 15,000, during the war.

The war also created a shortage of craftsmen and necessitated the employment of Indian and Pakistani goldsmiths who demanded higher wages.

Al Arbash stated that gold now costs KD 6,500 per gramme for 21-carat quality and KD 5 for 18-carat, including labour charges. He said that prices are fixed according to the world market trend, but that labour costs are relative to local demand.

There are no restrictions in Kuwait on the trade in precious metals or stones. Traders buy 18-carat gold from Italy and Spain

and 21-carat from India and the Far East. Precious stones are imported from the Far East as well. Al Arbash pointed out that imported gold has to be examined by the Ministry of Industry and Commerce before being put on the market.

Stones

Another dealer stated that during the last ten years, people in Kuwait have become increasingly keen to buy precious stones. Many good quality stones are brought from Belgium. Diamonds, as one example, are judged according to their purity, weight and colour. Other stones, such as emeralds, rubies, topaz and jade, are appraised through similar criteria. The dealer added, however, that Kuwaitis tend to prefer gold to gems.

El Bouri offers new dimensions for Libyan petroleum industry

VIENNA, Sept 6. (OPECNA): El Bouri, Libya's first offshore oilfield, now in its first phase of development, is not just another source of hydrocarbons for the North African OPEC member country. Located about 150 km northwest of Tripoli, the field is offering new dimensions for the Libyan petroleum industry.

"When we have developed all our offshore oil and gas resources, a new North Sea will emerge on this side of the Mediterranean," said Hamid Al Bouri, manager of the Libyan branch of Agip North Africa Middle East (Agip-NAME), the Libyan-Italian joint venture developing El Bouri.

"It will take some 20 years before we reach an output equal, and maybe even higher, than that of the North Sea," he said confidently. Measuring about nine km by 32 km, the El Bouri field alone holds around five billion barrels of crude in addition to more than 2.50 trillion standard cu.ft. of natural gas.

Reserves Of the crude reserves, about 75 per cent is considered commercially recoverable.

Under the first phase of the development programme, the construction of two drilling platforms, the 'DP-4' and the 'DP-3', has been completed.

At full production DP-4, the larger facility, will reach an out-

put level of around 150,000 BPD and is expected to pump oil at that rate for another 35 years before secondary recovery is implemented. Drilling platform DP-4 has already completed two wells, code-named '23' and '19', which are now already turning out a combined output of 8,000 BPD of crude of an API gravity of 25 degrees.

Under its programme 'DP-4' is to drill a total of 30 wells, while 'DP-3' is to do 20 wells.

'DP-4', weighing 67,000 tons, is one of the heaviest and largest offshore plants in the world. It is manned by a crew of 250. The smaller 'DP-3' weighs 35,000 tons.

Operations Equipped with the most sophisticated equipment for offshore operations, 'DP-4' is actually designed for drilling capacity of 66 wells, according to Abdullmuneim Farhat, a Libyan who is the offshore manager of the El Bouri project.

To provide all the necessary services for drilling and production operations, a logistics base is set up on the coast not far from Tripoli.

A 250,000-dwt tanker is meanwhile moored between the platforms to serve as a floating storage for oil production. Although the two platforms were designed long before disaster struck the "Piper Alpha" — the

North Sea production facility which was destroyed recently following a gas explosion — more safety measures were taken into consideration than at any similar existing offshore facility.

According to Al Bouri, the separation of living quarters of the crew from the operations and drilling facilities as designed for "DP-4" and "DP-3", might be first of its kind in the offshore industry.

He described the El Bouri project as an opportunity for Libya to gain experience in offshore ventures in order to prepare its nationals for future programmes.

Another unique feature of the two El Bouri platforms is the gas flare, located on a structure which forms part of the facilities in contrast to the system currently in use in the offshore industry where separate platforms are built.

"The gas flare system on the two platforms is a cost-saving technique, apart from being a way to improve safety," he added.

The El Bouri project, costing around \$1.5 billion, is not just opening "A new North Sea." It is the proof that Libyans also can and will develop their offshore hydrocarbon resources," said Al Bouri, stressing that El Bouri was being developed without assistance from the United States.

Malaysia's technical know-how can help upgrade Tanzania's technology

KUALA LUMPUR, Sept 6. (KUNA): Tanzania, whose foray into rubber and oil palm production is hampered by unsuitable weather, hopes to share Malaysia's experience and success.

The country is confident that Malaysia's technical know-how can help upgrade Tanzania's technology. Tanzania's Second Deputy President, Idris Abdul Wakil conveyed the message when he met with Deputy Prime Minister Chafar Baba at his office yesterday.

He said his country is also impressed with Malaysia's role in the South-South Commission from which Tanzania hopes to gain Malaysia's technical aid.

Visit

Idris led a 20-member delegation on a four-day official visit here. They left for North Korea today.

According to a Foreign Ministry spokesman, the leaders discussed the global commodities situation during the half-hour meeting.

Tanzania, whose main product is coffee and tea, has been hurt by falling prices of commodities.

Idris said his government is satisfied with the relations between the countries which were strengthened by Prime Minister Dr Mahathir Mohamad's visit two years ago.

WORLD STOCK ROUNDUP

SYDNEY, Sept 6. (Reuters): The market drifted to a marginally easier close as the strength of leading stocks dampened in directionless, thin trading. The All Ordinaries index fell 3.7 to 1,568.2.

TOKYO: Prices closed slightly down but off the day's lows after a fluctuating, featureless session in thin trading. The Nikkei index lost 21.07 to 27,320.51.

HONG KONG: Prices eased in very thin trading on cautious sentiment with operators sidelined awaiting a clearer trend. The Hang Seng index slipped 6.10 to 2,502.09.

SINGAPORE: Prices closed marginally easier but above the morning's lows in lethargic trading. The Straits Times industrial index fell 4.76 to 1,062.28.

BOMBAY: Prices fell on scattered selling pressure in narrow and erratic movements, but brokers said the selling was checked by sustained institutional support.

PARIS: Prices opened the main floor session easier in featureless trading, with most investors on the sidelines before Wall Street's opening.

Oil prices

at 7-week low

LONDON, Sept 6. (Reuters): Oil prices hit seven-week lows today on an international spot market awash with supplies, oil traders said.

North Sea Brent blend, the most widely traded crude, dropped 20 cents to around \$13.75 a barrel for cargoes lifting in October, bringing losses over the last week to around a dollar a barrel.

Over-production by members of the oil producers' organisation OPEC and an apparent deadlock in Gulf war peace talks between Iran and Iraq were factors causing recent price falls, traders said.

The main US crude West Texas Intermediate slumped 30 cents below Friday's close. US Markets were shut on Monday for the Labour Day holiday.

Japan's market for futures opens strongly

TOKYO, Sept 6. — Trading in Japan's two new futures contracts soared on opening day, but the weight of congratulatory orders masked uncertainty surrounding the potential impact of the instruments.

The number of orders from Japan and around the world on Saturday was nearly 200,000 contracts valued about five trillion yen (\$36.68 billion), exceeding even the most optimistic expectations of officials at the Tokyo Stock Exchange and the Osaka Securities Exchange, where the two stock index contracts are traded.

Even more surprising was the strong performance of the contract traded in Osaka, whose trading volume far surpassed Tokyo's, reports the Wall Street Journal.

"It was an overwhelming success," said Mark Arimura, a vice president with Salomon Brothers Asia Ltd.

The introduction of cash-settled stock-index futures in Japan

adds an important dimension to trading in the world's most heavily capitalised equity market. One of the indexes, the Tokyo stock price index, or Toxix, measures the performance of 1,117 stocks listed on the first section of the Tokyo Stock Exchange, where the contract is traded.

The other, the Nikkei Average, is an average of 225 major Japanese stocks and is traded on the Osaka Securities Exchange.

Contracts

The new contracts provide investors a chance to hedge their investments and to speculate on trends in Japan's economy. It also enables them to conduct arbitrage between the two index contracts, as well as between the cash and futures markets. More significantly, the new contracts provide investors the means to short the market.

Until now, the only way institutional investors could protect themselves against declines in

stocks was to buy the Osaka 50 index contract, a physical-delivery contract that started trading last year, or a Nikkei contract traded on the Singapore International Monetary Exchange.

Some analysts say they believe that in the long run, short-selling could alter the behaviour of the Tokyo market, which tends to be bullish even when other markets aren't. The Tokyo market, for example, didn't fall as hard as others during the October crash, largely because brokerages successfully persuaded major investors to support the market.

"Futures can trigger a panic decline in the market," said Toshio Yokoyama, a manager in the investment technology strategy and planning department at Nikko Securities Co. But he added that brokerage firms will be under tremendous pressure not to provoke a repeat of Black Monday. "Brokerage firms here have to say the market will go up," Yokoyama said.

Analysts say the ability to sell the market short will make a big difference to foreign investors. Those who find the sky-high price-earnings ratios of Japanese shares frightening have a way to protect themselves and thus may be more willing to participate in the Japanese market.

Waves

But analysts say it will take a while for the waves of the opening splash to subside to see just how the futures market will affect the cash market.

Saturday's volume figures indicate uncertainty about longer-term use of futures. On both exchanges, nearly all volume was in the near-month December contracts. In Tokyo, 77,443 of 77,470 contracts traded were for December settlement, while on the Osaka exchange, 121,359 of 121,378 contracts traded were for December delivery. No contracts were traded on either exchange for June 1989 settlement, and only a small number for March and September 1989.

Societe Generale to name new officers

BRUSSELS, Belgium, Sept 6. (AP): Societe Generale de Belgique SA opened its third shareholders meeting of 1988 today to name new officers as a key step to reshape Belgium's biggest holding company, which was the target of a bitter takeover battle earlier in the year.

Sources said Italian entrepreneur Carlo de Benedetti, who launched the takeover but struck a compromise in June with a group of French and Belgian companies opposing him, was certain to get a vice-presidency along with the right to name three board members.

These will likely be Peter Cohen, chairman of Shearson Lehman Hutton Inc. of the United States, Rene Thomas, chairman of Banque Nationale de Paris, and Alain Minc, chief of Cerus SA, De Benedetti's French-based holding company.

Strategy

The appointments are made in a bid to modernise Societe Generale, which because of its status as Belgium's largest holding retained an organisation little changed from when it was founded 166 years ago.

The shareholders meeting began at 10 am (0800 GMT) at a downtown conference hall with 203 shareholders present. They held about 40.5 million of Societe



Viscount Etienne Davignon, a former European Economic Community Commissioner (centre), Maurice Lippens, managing director of the Groupe AG (left) and Herve de Carmoy, executive director of the Societe Generale de Belgique arrive at the Societe Generale building in Brussels. (Reuters wirephoto)

Generale's 42.7 million shares. Shearson Lehman became an investor last spring in Europe 1992, a company set up and controlled by De Benedetti to hold shares in Societe Generale.

The shareholders meeting will not deal with the short or long term strategy of Societe Generale which directly and indirectly controls one-third of Belgium's economy.

Patrick Ponsolle, general director of Compagnie Financiere de Suez, said the meeting would simply put management in place.

Suez, the French financial group, is the single largest Societe Generale stockholder.

It co-operated with Groupe AG, the Belgian insurance group, to set up an alliance opposing De Benedetti's takeover bid.

Dramatic

Maurice Lippens, chairman of Groupe AG, said on the eve of today's meeting there would be no surprises.

"The circus is over," he said. Two earlier meetings this year were dramatic events in which the battle for control of Societe

Generale was in full swing. The two rival groups have since resolved to co-operate.

Analysts said Societe Generale was in dire need of a management shake-up.

The giant holding has stakes in more than 1,200 companies around the world involved in, among others, mining, energy, financial services, chemicals and engineering.

Through its interests, Societe Generale controlled more than a third of Belgium's \$150-billion gross domestic product, but its profits were only \$150 million.

S. Arabia lifts last tariffs on UAE products

ABU DHABI, Sept 6. (Reuters): Saudi Arabia has lifted customs tariffs which it imposed on some products from the United Arab Emirates, UAE officials said today.

Abdul Rahim Atiq, assistant undersecretary for foreign trade at the economy and commerce ministry, told Reuters that all locally-produced UAE goods were now free of Saudi taxes.

He said, without elaborating, that procedural problems with four UAE companies producing ice cream, canned fruits, biscuits and lubricants had delayed the removal of Saudi tariffs.

Decision

The decision to lift them followed a visit to the four companies by a committee representing the UAE, Saudi Arabia and the secretariat of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC).

The six GCC states — Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the UAE — signed an economic agreement in 1982 to gradually exempt locally-produced goods from customs tariffs in member states.



SAEED M. AL HAKIMI, the Yemen Arab Republic's Ambassador to Kuwait, visited the Organization of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC) offices yesterday. The ambassador is leaving Kuwait to serve as deputy speaker of Yemen's Shura Council. Abdelaziz Alwattari, acting secretary general of OAPEC, praised the constructive co-operation between the Yemeni Embassy and OAPEC during Al Hakimi's tenure. Alwattari said he hopes that the new oil wealth in Yemen will be used for the good of its people. Abdelaziz Alwattari (right) meets with Saeed M. Al Hakimi.

Ceasefire reduces shipping insurance rates for Gulf cargo

LONDON, Sept 6. (Reuters): War risk insurance premiums for all cargoes on ships sailing into the Gulf would be lowered sharply as a result of the ceasefire last month in the Iran-Iraq war, the London-based war risk rating committee said today.

It said that from Wednesday combined rates would be quoted for both oil and other cargoes instead of setting two levels as in the past.

The committee, made up of Lloyd's of London and the company insurance market of the Institute of London Underwriters, sets insurance rates for ships sailing into war zones.

It said vessel charterers sailing in the area off Iraq and the most northerly ports in Iran would still be listed in the "held over" category, meaning they must apply for a quotation for each voyage made.

Khang island has been taken out of the "held over" category and is now quoted at 0.1 per cent along with other Iranian ports in the southern Gulf, which were previously quoted at 0.375 per cent.

Value

The percentage premium quoted by the committee is for a proportion of the total value of the cargo.

Iranian ports outside the Gulf are being cut to 0.0275 per cent compared with the previous 0.05 per cent. The area includes Bandar Abbas, previously rated at 0.2 per cent.

All cargoes going to and from Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain and Qatar are being reduced to 0.1 per cent compared with 0.25 per cent for oil/gas cargoes and

0.2 per cent for other cargoes previously.

United Arab Emirates (UAE) ports within the Gulf will now have a premium of 0.05 per cent for all cargoes compared with 0.25 per cent for oil/gas cargoes and 0.20 per cent for other cargoes previously.

Siri Island will also be rated at 0.05 per cent compared with 0.50 per cent, the committee said.

The rate for UAE ports outside the Gulf, including Khor Fakaan and Fujairah is being kept at 0.0275 per cent, it said.

The United Nations-arranged ceasefire in the eight-year-old war between Iran and Iraq came into effect on August 20.

Since then, longstanding enmity between Iran and Iraq has stalled UN mediated talks in Geneva and both sides have not met directly since Aug 26.

GOVERNMENT TENDERS

15. Mohd Rafie Hussain Marafa Sons Trdg. & Contg. Co.
16. Ali Abdul Wahab, Sons & Partners Co.
17. Abdul Mohsen Bader Al Khorafi
18. Mahmoud Al Ghanim & Partner, Import & Export Co.
19. Hussain Makki Al Jumaa
20. Mohd Rafie Hussain Marafa Sons Trdg. & Contg. Co.
21. Hussain Makki Al Jumaa
N.B.: A pre-tender meeting shall be held at 10 am on Monday, 19.9.88 in the Ministry of Public Works, Block 14, 2nd Floor — Meeting Room to answer the tenderers queries.
Tenderers participating in this tender shall visit the site prior to the meeting to acquaint with the nature of building.
Tender No. M/1988/40
Tender's Internal No. 116/88
Concerned Party: Kuwait Oil Company
Requirements: Supply, installation & maintenance of Sterilization Appliances for Ahmadi Hospital
Relevant Fee: KD. 30/-
Initial Guarantee: 2-1/2% of offer's value
Date of Obtaining Documents: Sunday 4.9.88
Closing Date: 12.00 Noon, Sunday, 9.10.88
N.B.: This Tender is open for competent contractors and those interested to participate.

Tender No. C.T/4045
Tender's Internal No. 97/88
Concerned Party: Kuwait National Petroleum Co.
Requirements: Design & providing of air conditioning system for Adnan Building — Northern Ward — Computer Dept Offices.
Relevant Fee: KD. 30/-
Initial Guarantee: 2-1/2% of offer's value
Closing Date: 12.00 Noon, Tuesday, 11.10.88
Qualified Tenderers:
1. Al Sawari Trdg. & Gen. Contg. Co.
2. Al Dar Trdg. & Contg. Co.
3. Consolidated Contractors Co. (Conco)
4. Hassan Al Shurti Est.
5. Ahmed Ghomri Riza Ashkhami Est.
6. Khalifa Duaij Al Dabous & Bros.
7. Hameed Al Jandani Al Khada Est.
8. Al Badah & Messert Trdg. & Contg. Co.
(To be continued)

Electrical Services Co.
N.B.: A pre-tender meeting shall be held at 10.00 am on Sunday, 25.9.88 in Shuaiba Refinery to visit the site & acquaint with the nature of work.
Note: The company representative shall not be allowed to attend the preliminary obligatory meeting if the bidder fails to notify Kuwait National Petroleum Co. with the names and designations of his nominees according to the safety and security conditions applied in refineries at least two days before the date of the said meeting.
Bidders offers shall not be considered if he fails to attend the above-said preliminary obligatory meeting.
Tender No. A 921/C
Tender's Internal No. T14/88
Concerned Party: Kuwait National Petroleum Co.
Requirements: Replacement & modifying of Line No. 2 from Ways Division Centre to Southern Pier
Relevant Fee: KD. 30/-
Initial Guarantee: 2-1/2% of offer's value
Closing Date: 12.00 Noon, Tuesday, 11.10.88
Qualified Tenderers:
1. Al Sawari Trdg. & Gen. Contg. Co.
2. Al Dar Trdg. & Contg. Co.
3. Consolidated Contractors Co. (Conco)
4. Hassan Al Shurti Est.
5. Ahmed Ghomri Riza Ashkhami Est.
6. Khalifa Duaij Al Dabous & Bros.
7. Hameed Al Jandani Al Khada Est.
8. Al Badah & Messert Trdg. & Contg. Co.
(To be continued)

Provided by M.A. Mursi Umar Al Maradim International Est. P.O. Box 3654, Safat, Tel. 5337547/5337610.

By Georgina Gold

POLICEMAN Alan Godfrey could hardly believe the arrest-sight before him....

It was 5.15 am, and he had been called out to locate a herd of straying cows. But suddenly, right in front of his car, was an oval-shaped object, hovering above the road.

He had no idea what it could be, or where it had come from. But he decided at once that he should make some record of it. He grabbed his accident report book and started sketching.

The next moment the bemused policeman found himself half a mile further down the road, with no idea how he had got there. The flying object had mysteriously disappeared, and he had somehow inexplicably torn his boot, as if he had been dragged along the road.

He later discovered that 14 minutes had disappeared, and were totally unaccounted for. And when he returned to the spot where he had seen the object, he found the road surface, previously wet, was now completely dry with a swirled pattern on it.

At first Godfrey was too frightened to say anything... worried about what people would say. But the next day when he discovered that three other police officers had reported seeing a brilliant light in that area, he decided he had to speak out.

P.C. Godfrey was put in touch with a local UFO team. Under hypnosis he recalled an experience so weird it might well have come straight from the pages of a best-selling science fiction book. If anything, what he said, was even more fantastic.

He recalled floating in a room and being medically examined by some small beings, "with heads shaped like lamps." They were being supervised by a tall human-like being, in a white cloak, who said his name was Yoseph. The aliens then spoke to him telepathically and told him that one day they would return.

Expert
It was a story that quickly convinced his superiors he had gone mad and was medically unfit for duty. But in time, even though his experience seemed more far-fetched than Dynasty star Fallon's screen abduction by a UFO, he convinced enough people that the incident had really happened, and he decided to retire instead.

But, according to British UFO expert Jenny Randles, Godfrey is certainly not alone in his experience. And she claims abduction by flying objects is a genuine reality and not just a fantasy idea dreamed

Strange sci-fi experiences of people 'abducted' by UFOs

Former policeman Alan Godfrey is just one of more than 200 people who claim to have been kidnapped by aliens. Now UFO expert Jenny Randles claims their stories, far from being fantasy, are probably true.



An infra-red photograph of a UFO.

up by soap opera producers to boost ratings.

Jenny says that over the past decade an alarmingly high number of people from all over the world claim to have had some kind of "abduction" experience. And she insists it is time these people were treated seriously and not as cranks.

Now she has just written a book called "Abduction" in which she relates more than 200 extra-terrestrial experiences recorded from around the world.

But even some of the world's leading authorities on UFOs and little green men are anything but a publicity-seeking weirdo. Her semi-detached house in the leafy suburbs of Manchester seems a million years away from the world of flying saucers and yet the former science tea-

cher has already written 12 books on the subject. She is firmly regarded as Britain's leading authority on UFOs.

Jenny, aged 36, says: "There are currently two schools of opinion about abductions. People either think they are something dreamed up by cranks, or they believe these people really are whisked away by flying saucers."

"I think the truth lies somewhere between these two extremes."

Jenny isn't willing to commit herself to any one explanation of abductions. But she is in no doubt that all of these people have had a very real experience — which has left them totally bewildered.

She explains: "I would describe the effect that an abduction has on victims is similar to

that experienced by rape victims. They feel embarrassed to talk to anybody and very isolated. Often they find it difficult to cope with ordinary life. Sometimes their marriages break up and some have lost their jobs."

"Some people say that those who claim they've been abducted are just over-imaginative and attention seeking. But if that's so, why do so many of them tell me they wish it had never happened to them?"

One of Jenny's more bizarre stories is that of a British woman who claimed to be 'married' to an alien.

She also tells of victims undergoing medical examinations and a man who claims he was cosmotically raped!

And another incident involved a man who was convinced that aliens regularly appeared at his local supermarket — cleverly disguised as humans. He knew they were aliens for two very important reasons. Firstly, they told him so — telepathically. And secondly, they were piling dozens of tins of dog food into a trolley — a sure giveaway if ever he saw one!

Startling

One of the most startling stories concerning UFOs came from the Day family, who lived in Aveley in Essex. In October 1974 while driving home in their car they saw a blue light in the sky, but laughed it off and forgot about it. Then, rounding a bend, they came upon a patch of green mist in the middle of the road, just outside their village. They could not avoid it and drove straight into it, which caused their radio to spark. In what seemed just a few seconds later however, they were out of the mist with a 'bump' and on their way home.

When they arrived home they were shocked to discover it was suddenly 1 am. They had lost two and a half hours without any memory.

After that many things happened to the family. They had several psychic experiences, such as objects mysteriously moving and disappearing were seen.

When they were studied by doctors under hypnosis it emerged that the family had been 'drawn out' of their car when they had entered the green mist. Their abductors — human like figures had worn silver suits and 'balalaika helmets'. It seemed that yet another baffling 'kidnap' case had taken place.

A 20-year-old supermarket manager also had a close encounter of the mysterious kind. He was walking home one night in Buckinghamshire when he spotted a light that flashed onto the ground and turned into a greenish bullet-shaped object.

A beam hit the ground and a very tall being in a silvery — one piece suit materialized. It glided toward him and moved its hand up and down his face, giving him the sensation that he was being drawn out of his mind. Eventually the figure returned to the beam and was pulled up into the bullet. Years later, the man still gets the urge to visit the spot and stare at the sky.

Now Jenny believes there is a definite pattern to most abductions. There are certain features that recur time and time again, which include telepathic communication in which the aliens tell their victims not to be afraid, time loss of anything from minutes to several hours

and loss of memory about how they found their way into the 'spaceship'.

Jenny explains: "The thing that has amazed me is the extreme similarities between cases from all over the world from Africa to South America."

"All the witnesses I have spoken to have been very sincere. Very often I have come across people describing word for word what someone else has told me about their experience, when there is no way they could have heard what the other person has to say. That is very frightening."

"Most people's knowledge of abduction is only that which is sensationalised in the media. I want people to realise and understand that there is something very real, known as the abduction phenomenon. What it is we don't know, but we want it to be widely researched to give us an idea just what is going on."

"One hundred years ago people thought epilepsy was caused by devils, but now we know it is a medical condition. We need a change of attitude towards abduction so that we can try to find out what it really is."

Claims

"People who make these astonishing claims are just ordinary people. There have been policemen, housewives, army officers to name but a few. What has emerged is they are not psychologically disturbed or under stress. They just



Spaceship: taken in 1975, this photograph shows a beamship and an accompanying remote-controlled aircraft. (Inset), author Jenny Randles.

become very confused by an experience which they can't explain."

Jenny first became interested in UFOs when she was on a family holiday in the seaside resort of Blackpool when she was just 11 years old.

She recalls: "I was staying in a guest house with my grandparents when something very odd happened. I was in bed one night when lights began to hover over the building."

"Everybody got very excited and the staff even climbed onto the roof to get a better look. The next day at breakfast the whole place was filled with talk about the UFO."

"I don't know why it had such an effect on me, but from then on I read everything I could on UFOs. I was hooked."

Psychologists challenge alien encounter reports

Fantasy-prone psyche 'behind abduction'

By Rebecca Kolberg

WASHINGTON, (UPI): One controversial theory, proposed recently by a psychologist, holds that the so-called victims of weird little creatures from outer space are more the victims of a "fantasy-prone" personality, a still poorly understood psychological state.

"Fantasy-prone people are not psychotic, not crazy, not even neurotic. They're just a little different than the rest of us," said Robert Baker, a psychology professor at University of Kentucky.

"What lies behind most of so-called alien encounter reports is a problem with people who are susceptible being told these things," said Baker. Psychological researchers Heryl Wilson and T.X. Barber were among the first to characterize the fantasy-prone personality, reporting in a 1983 study that such individuals could comprise as much as 4 per cent of the population.

Such people become actively involved in the events they fantasize — reporting sights, sounds and smells. In addition, researchers say such people enter hypnotic-like trances when they are deeply involved in a fantasy.

"In the past, before the technological age, such people saw angels and said the angels carried them up to heaven, or they were abducted by fairies, leprechauns or other little folk," said Baker, adding that in order to maintain a facade of normality such people learn "to be highly secretive and private about their fantasy lives."

Suspect

The difference between normal people with vivid imaginations and those with fantasy-prone personalities is the latter group's difficulty in distinguishing between reality and fantasy, according to Baker.

Writing in the sceptical Inquirer, the psychologist said although most abductees appear to be mild-mannered, unassuming citizens, if they were given intensive psychological tests, "it is highly likely that many similarities would emerge, particularly an unusual

personality pattern... categorised as fantasy-prone."

Baker, who deems all the reported alien abduction cases "highly suspect" due to lack of physical evidence from outer space, anticipates a rash of new reports in the wake of highly popular, "non-fiction" books on such sagas, including Whitley Strieber's "Communion" and Budd Hopkins' "Intruders."

But others question the personality theory.

Mark Rodeghier, scientific director of J. Allen Hynek Centre for UFO Studies in Chicago said the fantasy-prone theory "may or may not explain some abduction cases."

"As far as abduction claims themselves, we are on the fence. I think they should be taken seriously because a number of people who reported them are traumatised by the experience, whatever it was," said Rodeghier, a psychology lecturer at the University of Illinois.

Although UFO investigator

chological makeup, which might be labelled fantasy-prone, he said.

Baker challenges abduction stories elicited through hypnosis, claiming this encourages and rewards the fantasy-prone.

"There's currently no way even the most sophisticated hypnotist can tell the difference between a memory that is real and one that's created. If a person is hypnotised and highly suggestible, and false information is implanted in his mind, it may get embedded even more strongly," Baker writes.

Rodeghier acknowledged that an unethical or inexperienced hypnotist could nudge a susceptible person into "recalling" extraterrestrial encounters, but said faulting hypnosis techniques is not the same as debunking alien abductions.

Many claims people make about extraterrestrials do not require hypnosis, with about one-third of the cases involving "a fair amount of conscious memory," Rodeghier said.

'In the past, before the technological age, such people saw angels, ... were abducted by fairies, leprechauns or other little folk.'

Hopkins concedes Baker's fantasy-prone theory "certainly may apply in a number of cases," he argued that Baker did not conduct research to back up his claims.

It is also difficult to apply the concept to incidents in which several people reported being abducted simultaneously, Hopkins argued.

Pattern

He cited the case of a registered nurse and her two sons who reported an unexplained two-hour time lapse after their car was approached by a UFO. Under hypnosis all gave similar accounts of abduction by alien creatures.

Hopkins suggested alien abduction could be a pattern that starts in early childhood, with extraterrestrials "more or less tagging humans like elk or deer and following them through the years." Such experiences would probably create an unusual psy-

In his article, Baker attributed some extraterrestrial accounts to hallucinations that occur as people are waking or drifting off to sleep. In such "waking dreams," a person feels awake, but paralysed or floating, and may "see" supernatural creatures.

Hallucination
The abduction sceptic calls Whitley Strieber's best-seller, "Communion," "a classic textbook description" of such a hallucination, despite Strieber's insistence his abduction by aliens was real.

"The point cannot be more strongly made that ordinary, perfectly sane and rational people have these hallucinatory experiences and that such individuals are in no way mentally disturbed or psychotic. But neither are such experiences to be taken as incontrovertible proof of some sort of objective or consensual reality," Baker states.

Hopkins conceded Strieber's

plained, that means that out of 300 to 400 reports we get each year, there are 30 to 40 rock solid cases which can't be explained.

People who say it's a load of old rubbish simply don't understand the importance of what has happened to the people who say they have seen a UFO.

"I appeal to them to look behind the sensational headlines. Many people need counselling to help them cope with the experience... to them it is very real."

Who knows, the next time you go for a drive only to be stopped in your tracks by an unidentified flying object, you just find yourself taking Jenny's words that bit more seriously...

* Abduction by Jenny Randles, published by Robert Hale, (£10.95).



Flying saucer: a photograph of a UFO taken by Brazilian sailors

FAMILY DOCTOR

By DR ALLAN BRUCKHEIM

MONITORING BLOOD PRESSURE AT HOME HELPFUL TO DOCTORS

QUESTION: I take my blood pressure at home every day. I do it religiously and keep careful notes. It takes time and I wondered if it was worth it. Is this information helpful for my doctor?

ANSWER: If you are taking your blood pressure yourself, you probably have noticed that it varies considerably with your physical activity, your emotions, your diet, and by factors that you can't put your finger on. This is normal — your blood pressure is a dynamic force, one that rises and falls in response to the changing circumstances of your day and your body's reaction to them.

You can see that taking your blood pressure only occasionally gives readings that may not reflect the true picture. If these occasional readings are taken only in the doctor's office, they may be even more inaccurate because many of us are a bit uneasy there.

If you and your doctor agree that your home blood pressure monitoring equipment is accurate and that you use it correctly, your home readings will be helpful in getting an accurate picture of your blood pressure. Ask your physician to check your equipment against the equipment in his office, and always take it to the office with you so it can

be rechecked. Some physicians are using "24-hour ambulatory blood pressure monitors" to automatically check blood pressures at regular intervals for a 24-hour period. These monitors are not yet widely used, but they are becoming more common.

Blood pressure should be controlled so that your body's organs aren't damaged by high pressure. Blood vessels in your kidneys, your brain, your heart and your eyes are just some of the vessels that are particularly sensitive to high pressure. Any method you have of learning more about your blood pressure will be helpful to you and your physician.

QUESTION: I am currently being treated with medicine for my breast cancer. This is a difficult time, and I am trying to keep calm and not develop any more anxiety than exists now. I need more information. I would like to know how long I must endure this.

ANSWER: That's a question physicians and cancer researchers raise often because not everyone agrees on the answer. The treatment you mention, chemotherapy, uses combinations of extremely strong drugs that can kill the cancer cells.

Traditionally, a patient with metastatic (spreading) breast cancer received chemotherapy for as long as no progression of the disease could be noted. Once additional spread could be detected, medication was stopped. Now, some oncologists (cancer specialists) prefer using chemotherapy for six to eight months. The chemotherapy is repeated only if they find a new outbreak or spread of the cancer.

Although continuous chemotherapy may increase the survival rate more than shorter courses of drugs, some comparative studies show little or no difference. The quality of life for cancer patients must be considered, since chemotherapy can be very difficult to endure. Shorter courses of chemotherapy (three months), however, do not have as good a response rate.

I understand your feelings — hold tight. Since physicians vary in their methods of treatment, I can only advise you to discuss this matter more fully with your own physician, who can explain his treatment strategy for your case. You may have a happy surprise and find the time of treatment is shorter than you have imagined.

1988, TRIBUNE MEDIA SERVICES, INC

ANDY CAPP

By Smith



MARKET PLACE

هكذا من الأهل

۲۰، محرم الحرام ۱۴۰۹ھ - بدھ ۴، ستمبر ۱۹۸۸ء - حیث الہیڈ اسٹو احمد عار اللہ

ایران میں قیاد کی کھس ویر

میں نے مجلس سے کاہینہ کے آٹھ رکن کی تقرری کی منظوری حاصل نہ ہو سکنے کے پیش

ماواہستہ کانفرنس میں افغانستان اور کمیونچا کے مسائل پر اختلاف رائے


[illegible][illegible]

بنگمہ دیش میں مزدکار شمس عسکرات کی صورت حال اتر ہو گئی

[illegible]

یہ سب سے پہلے ایک ایسی بات ہے جس کی طرف ہم نے غور کیا ہے۔ یہ بات ہے کہ اگرچہ ہم نے یہ بات پہلے ہی کہی ہے، لیکن اب اس کی وضاحت کرنے کی ضرورت ہے۔

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کافی مسرت تھی کہ اسے یہ خبر ملے کہ کسی کی قبر کا حیات فراہم کرنے کے لیے ان میں میں مرید دو سال در عمل دہلیور ہوئی اور سرور میں جا کر سال سزاوردی جا کے گی

بقی دوسرے صفحہ پر

سوویت لیٹن ری ایئر میں تحقیقات کی کاحصہ دیکھو

تحقیقات مکمل ہوئے تھکری ایکٹر مدوے کا تحقیقاتی کچل کے سرہہ کا بیان

ایک ایسی کسبیتا کہ ان میں کی کے اس کا پتہ نہیں کی تو، دینی میں ہواور ہی یا بکری خارج ہوئے ہے دولت کی کچل کے حوالہ سے ان کی بکری کے خارج ہوئے ہے کی کچل کے حوالہ سے ان کی بکری کے خارج ہوئے ہے کی کچل کے حوالہ سے ان کی بکری کے خارج ہوئے ہے

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کویت جدید اسلحہ کی فراہمی پیشکش پر غور کر رہا ہے، شیخ نواف

فرانس نے لویت کو ضرورت کا تمام جدید اسلحہ مہیا کرنے کی پیشکش کی ہے انہما سے انگریزوں

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مومنوں کے لئے اس دعا ہے

مستعفی ہونے کا فیصلہ کیا ہے، موسوی کا صدر کے نام پر اسامہ

بجوزہ کا بلینہ پر اعتماد کے ووٹ کے لیے مجلس کا اجلاس اتوار تک ملتوی

یہاں ایک اور شخصیت کی تصویر دکھائی گئی ہے۔ یہ ایک مسلمان شخص ہے جس نے مسلمانوں کی خدمت میں ایک نیا اور تازہ خیال پیش کیا ہے۔

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یوں شوقان سے ۸۳۸ مارا دیا ملک
یکہ ٹی۔ ۱۹ جیم (ی پ) ۱) سیکر کے شرفی اور
کے سامنے طاقتوں میں زور سے مندری طوفان اور
شیں کے ساتھ ۸۳۸ مارا دیا اور ایک لاکھ سے گھر
ہیں۔ حکام نے بتایا کہ طوفان اور باروداں سے دست
میں چلی گئی ہے مگر اب صورت حال بہتر ہو رہی ہے
تھوڑے دنوں میں ہیں۔ خود اور فلوک کے روزہ خانے میں
روایات کی خطرات کی وجہ سے سمندری طوفان
کے طاقتوں میں زور سے چلی ہوئی اور سب سے زیادہ
سیاحوں کا اٹلنا پڑا۔ سب سے زیادہ چلی دیر کر روز
میں آئی جس میں ہزاروں افراد بے گھر ہو گئے۔

مہم معافی کا اعلان کر دیا

رومان اور یونان ملک میں عراقی فوجوں نے جو کچھ

امریکیوں نے یونان میں کیا ہے، وہاں کر دے گی جو اسے ان
میں جبر سے جبریہ ہو چکی ہے، مگر اگر کوئی ایسا بیان میں
ہو گا۔ یہودیہ۔

یہودیہ کے وزیر امور خارجہ نے کہا کہ اسرائیل نے یونان میں
کے خلاف ایک ایسا بیان کیا ہے جس میں اسرائیل نے یونان میں
کے خلاف ایک ایسا بیان کیا ہے جس میں اسرائیل نے یونان میں

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

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تشیخہ یعنی دور کرنے کا معنوم اندازہ



تھائی لینڈ کا قبائلی شہر کیڑی میں بائی پاس بھڑا رہا ہے

سینیٹ میں ہنگامی کونسل کے خلاف تحریک مسترد کر دی گئیں

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اسرائیلی فوج کا مغربی کنارہ کے شہر چھاپہ 'سو سے زائد عرب گرفتار

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۶۷۰ متر ارتفاع، از یکی ساخته شده

۱۔ افسوس ! ۲۶ جنوری (کلیان) کے علاقے کے سرکردہ سائنس دانوں کے ایک اجلاس میں گفتگو کیا گیا کہ سائنس کی ترقی کے لیے عالمی سطح پر روایت شدہ ستارہ سمجھنے سے مٹی کی جگہ پر پوری اہمیت کے ساتھ توجہ دینا چاہئے گا۔ تاہم یہ افسوس کے ساتھ کہ تقریباً ۲۵ سال پہلے ہی ایسی ہی باتیں کہیں کہیں ہو چکی ہیں۔
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هكذا آمن الأهل

NAVRAILOVA AND GRAF ADVANCE

Krickstein eliminates Edberg



Chang defeated Wilkinson

NEW YORK, Sept. 6, (AP) — Aaron Krickstein gained fame at the US Open as a teenager in 1983. Then his career took a downward curve.

It took another positive bounce last night, however, as Krickstein upset third-seeded Stefan Edberg to advance to the quarterfinals of the Open.

Krickstein downed the Wimbledon champion 5-7, 7-6 (7-4), 7-6 (7-2), 4-6, 7-5 in a 3-hour, 52-minute match at the National Tennis Centre.

In women's play, Steffi Graf and Martina Navratilova moved a step closer to a championship showdown, overcoming shaky starts to steamroll into the quarterfinals.

Nap

Graf, losing more games than she had in her three previous matches, beat American Patty Fendick 6-4, 6-2 to move within three victories of the first tennis Grand Slam since 1970.

Navratilova, who took a nap just before the match, appeared to be sleepwalking as she lost the first four games to Elena Reinach of South Africa. But the two-time defending champion awoke in time to win 10 straight games en route to a 6-4, 6-1 victory.

In men's play, top-seeded Ivan Lendl, No. 4 Andre Agassi and No. 6 Jimmy Connors breezed

Pointe, Michigan, resident, now ranked 20th. "I'm unbeaten (6-0) at the Open in five-sets. It was a tight match, back and forth, and I love when it gets down to that."

"At one stage I was in control. I should have won this match," said Edberg, who reached the Open semifinals the past two years.

Navratilova admitted there was a reason for her performance.

"I probably shouldn't tell you this, but I took a nap before the match and I wasn't quite awake at the beginning," the two-time defending champion said. "You know how it is. It takes time to wake up."

Graf also had to shake off a first-set slumber before moving within three victories of the Grand Slam.

"The first week is very easy," said Graf, who had lost a total of four games in her three previous matches. "Now comes the work."

Another unseeded Aussie, Darren Cahill, moved into the quarters with a 6-4, 6-4, 6-3 win over Martin Laurendeau of Canada. Joining him in the quarterfinals was Emilio Sanchez of Spain, who beat Australian John Frawley 6-2, 6-3, 6-4.

In third-round matches,

ninth-seeded Tim Mayotte lost to fellow American Derrick Rostagno 6-3, 6-4, 6-2 and Ronald Agener of Haiti beat Jason Stoltenberg of Australia 6-3, 2-6, 6-4, 6-3.

Lendl stretched his open winning streak to 24 matches with a 6-1, 6-4, 6-3 victory over American Scott Davis. Connors eliminated Pieter Aldrich of South Africa 6-3, 6-2, 6-3; and Agassi beat Johan Kriek 6-3, 6-1, 2-6, 6-0.

Ousted

Two other men's seeds, No. 12 Guillermo Perez-Roldan and No. 15 Anders Jarryd, were ousted from the tournament. Perez-Roldan was beaten by Jorge Lozano of Mexico 6-4, 6-4, 5-7, 7-6 (7-2) and Jarryd fell to Jakob Hasek of Switzerland 6-2, 6-4, 6-2.

Michael Chang, 16, became the youngest man to reach the fourth round since Krickstein in 1983. Chang defeated fellow American Tim Wilkison 4-6, 3-6, 6-3, 6-4, 7-5.

The No. 7 women's seed, Helena Sukova, was beaten by No. 14 Katerina Maleeva 6-1, 6-3. Joining Maleeva in the quarterfinals were third-seeded Chris Evert, No. 5 Gabriela Sabatini, No. 11 Zina Garrison and No. 16 Larisa Savchenko.



Tyson wheeled into an ambulance on Sunday as Robin Givens (left) looks on. (Reuter wirephoto)

Tyson scheduled to undergo further tests

NEW YORK, Sept. 6, (UPI) — Heavyweight champion Mike Tyson was to remain in the hospital at least until this evening undergoing evaluation for injuries suffered in a weekend car accident, one of his representatives said yesterday.

A spokesman for Tyson's publicist, Howard J. Rubenstein Associates, said the condition of the 22-year-old champion is stable.

"He is scheduled to undergo further diagnostic tests," the spokesman said. "He added Tyson might stay 'a number of more days, I'm not sure.'"

Condition

Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Centre officials released no new information on the fighter's condition. They said he could not be reached by phone because he asked not to have one.

Dr. Carolyn Britton, a neurologist, said on Sunday night Tyson sustained "minor injuries to his head and chest wall" when his BMW crashed into a tree on a rain-slicked road on Sunday morning.

The doctor added Tyson was in "stable condition and was admitted for observation and diagnostic tests. He is asymptomatic and neurologically normal."

Tyson was moved to New York from Columbia-Greene Medical Centre in Catskill, about 20 miles (30km) south of Albany. The boxer's wife, actress Robin Givens, and mother-in-law, Ruth Roper, requested the transfer, according to the fighter's manager, Bill Cayton.

Cayton said it was too early to know if the fight with Frank Bruno will be postponed. The Bruno bout already had been pushed back from Oct 8 to Oct 22 because of a hand injury Tyson suffered in an Aug 23 street fight with former opponent Mitch Green.

Moroccan aims to clinch Games gold

Aouita continues to extend boundaries

LONDON, Sept. 6, (Reuter) — On the track Said Aouita is obsessed with time, spurred by a compulsive need to shatter world records.

Outside the athletics arena he is supremely indifferent to the normal conventions of punctuality.

"I've always arrived for filming," recalls Pat Butcher, writer and producer of a television film on the fleet-footed Moroccan.

"But we never knew when he was going to turn up."

With friends such as Morocco's King Hassan II, Aouita can afford to disregard standard notions of time keeping.

Engaged

Last month Aouita missed a fight to West Berlin, where he was scheduled to run in the Grand Prix final, because he was engaged in an audience with his monarch in Rabat.

So he simply borrowed the king's helicopter, was flown to Casablanca then caught an aircraft to Paris followed by a connecting flight to West Berlin.

There, with barely time to catch his breath, he won the mile and the \$25,000 prize for men's Grand Prix overall winner to maintain his unbeaten record this year.

Aouita is one of only a handful of athletes who have transcended what were considered the boundaries of their sport.

Unassailable over 5,000 metres, where he is the world and Olympic champion as well as holding the world record, Aouita staggered the athletics world this year by blithely announcing that he planned to run the 800 and 1,500 at the Seoul Olympics.

The first reaction was one of scepticism, not so much of his ambitions at the 1,500 where he holds the world record but over his plans to run the 800.

But Aouita was perfectly serious and to add weight to his words he clocked one minute 43.86 seconds in winning the 800 at the Cologne Grand Prix, the fourth fastest time of the year.

Olympic titles in each of the 800, 1,500 and 5,000 events are scarcely conceivable in modern-day athletics but Aouita has specialised in breaking the rules.

He will run anywhere, at any distance against any opponent and, for good measure, will attempt whatever world record takes his fancy.

In statistical terms his achievements are awesome.

He was the first person to break the 13-minute barrier for 5,000 metres and the first man for



Aouita: seeks world records

Fierce pride, which can seem like arrogance, and hard work are the keys to Aouita's success.

"I train, hard, hard, hard," Aouita says. "This is no secret, I have no secrets to hide."

The Moroccan was not exaggerating.

Told of one training session which started with a 1,600 metres run followed by two 800s and four 400s, each at nearly full pace with little rest in between, veteran New Zealand John Walker exclaimed: "Ninety nine point nine per cent of the world's leading middle distance runners couldn't even think of such doing a session like that."

Breaks

His rivals are unanimous in their praise for the 27-year-old Moroccan.

"Basically Aouita breaks all the rules," says Briton Sebastian Coe.

"He's pushing back the barriers of middle-distance and long-distance running," agrees Coe's compatriot Steve Cram.

Aouita himself scarcely suffers from self-doubt.

Speaking of the Olympic 1,500 metres final he says: "I am sure to win the gold medal because I am the best."

"I get better every year."

Gulf athletes expected to dominate meet

SINGAPORE, Sept. 6, (KUNA) — Athletes from the Gulf states are expected to steal the limelight in the 2nd Asian Junior Track and Field Championships to be held here from Sept 8 to 11.

Japan and China dominated the inaugural meet in Jakarta two years ago, but the challenge from the Gulf states at the national stadium here will be formidable, featuring eight likely gold medalists.

Qatar's Olympics-bound Mohammed Suleiman leads the pack, with a seemingly unbeatable time of 3 mins 41.95 secs. For the 1,500 metres.

Suleiman's training partner, Shawqi Abdullah, also looks good in the 800m, with a 1:49.05 best, compared with Yoshikazu Tachi's 1:49.29.

Qatar already have an Asian sprint champion in Talal Mansoor, but Ibrahim Ismail could be the next. His times of 10.3 and 47 sec. for the 100 and 400m respectively in the recent Arab junior meet in Syria could steal the gold medals from under the noses of the Japanese competitors.

Kuwait's Ziad Al Khader, another athlete going to the Olympics, has a 14.3s best in the 110m hurdles.

Jansher sails into 2nd round

SINGAPORE, Sept. 6, (Reuter) — Jansher Khan reached the second round of the Singapore Open squash championship today with a 15-8 15-3 15-4 win over fellow-Pakistani Ghousar Rehman.

Top seed Jansher, fresh from his victory in the Hong Kong open last week, trailed only at the beginning of the first game, but went on to a very comfortable victory over a tired Rehman.

Jansher said: "I expect to win this tournament as I am now in peak condition."

Jansher will meet Englishman Del Harris in the second round tomorrow after Harris beat compatriot Jason Nicolle 15-10 15-7 15-6.

Title rematch

TOKYO, Sept. 6, (Reuter) — World Boxing Council (WBC) straw-weight champion Hiroaki Ioka will fight Thailand's Napa Katwanchai in a rematch in Osaka on November 13, the Japan Boxing Commission said today.

A commission official said the WBC had awarded Napa a rematch against the Japanese champion following a bout last June in which Ioka retained his title with a controversial draw.

King wins Charity Classic

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Sept. 6, (Reuter) — Betsy King beat Margaret Ward by two strokes at the \$250,000 Charity Classic yesterday to notch her second US LPGA tournament of the year.

King started out strongly with birdies on holes one, two and four but gave back strokes on six and seven to card a one-under-par 71 on the day and a 207 total to win this event for the third time in four years.

Strong

"I felt like I had a lot of chances to put it away but just didn't make the putts," King said. "I made a couple of bad swings on the sixth and seventh and that

Discover gold

Benson & Hedges

Government Warning: Smoking is a major cause of cancer and diseases of the lungs, heart and arteries.

SPORTS

SPORTS BRIEFS

Swiss athlete

GENEVA, Sept. 6. (Reuters): Swiss Markus Ryffel, 5,000 metres silver medalist in the 1984 Olympics, said today he was withdrawing from the team for the Seoul Games because of injury.

English cricketer

LONDON, Sept. 6. (Reuters): England all-rounder Phillip DeFreitas has decided to join Lancashire, the county cricket club said yesterday. DeFreitas, who has had a series of upsets at Leicestershire, has played 12 Tests since making his debut against Australia in Brisbane two years ago.

Pietro Mennea

MILAN, Italy, Sept. 6. (AP): Pietro Mennea, the veteran Italian sprinter, today pulled out of the national track and field championships, ending his hopes to qualify for the Olympic Games for the fifth time.

Wrestler dies

LONDON, Sept. 6. (Reuters): British wrestling champion Stephen Cooper, a member of the team for this month's Olympic Games, died yesterday, 24 hours after being involved in a road accident.

Romanian athlete

SYDNEY, Australia, Sept. 6. (AP): Daniela Costin of Romania, who had the longest discus throw of the year at one point, has been granted asylum in Turkey and is now seeking to emigrate to Australia, officials said today.

Belgian team

BRUSSELS, Sept. 6. (Reuters): Belgium have dropped two members of their Olympic team after they were positively doped, a spokesman for the Belgian Olympic Committee said today. Piet Moons told Reuters that Peter Naessens and Dominique Dejeune, from the track cycling team, had been found positive in two successive tests.

Swedes win

VAXJO, Sweden, Sept. 6. (UPI): Sweden crushed East Germany 26-18 in a friendly pre-Olympic handball game last night. Previously this year, only the Soviet Union had managed to beat East Germany, which is expected to clinch a medal at the Olympics.

Volleyball coach

STOCKHOLM, Sept. 6. (UPI): Swedish volleyball coach Anders Kristiansson has agreed on contract terms with Italian club Bologna. Kristiansson, who has made an elite nation out of Sweden in the 1980s, has previously turned down offers from clubs in France, Greece, Belgium and West Germany.

Harding triumphs

SYDNEY, Sept. 6. (UPI): Australian Jeff Harding yesterday swept American light-heavyweight Dean Moore in the eighth round of their scheduled 10-round bout at the Hordern Pavilion. Moore came into the ring with 19 wins and a draw from 27 professional bouts, attacked early in the fight but he could not withstand the relentless short-range punching of the young Aussie.

Steaua Bucharest to meet Sparta Prague

Milan face tough Cup match against Sofia

ITALIAN champions AC Milan, including their famous trio of European Championship-winning Dutchmen, return to the European Cup for the first time since 1979 today when they face a tough trip to Bulgaria for a first round meeting with Vitosha Sofia.

With holders PSV Eindhoven of the Netherlands enjoying the luxury of a bye to the second round, the unseeded Italians' visit to Sofia is the most intriguing match among a total of 53 on the opening night of European soccer's three major club tournaments which will not include any English teams for the fourth consecutive year.

Skillful

Milan, with Ruud Gullit, Marco van Basten and Frank Rijkaard providing the Dutch genius in their team, not only face the problem of meeting a typically skillful and well-organized East European team on their own ground, but also of finding their own form immediately in what will be their first competitive match of the new season. As a result of Italy's participation in the Olympic soccer tournament in Seoul later this month, the Italian League soccer championship is not scheduled to

PATRON'S XI ALL OUT FOR 246

Ejaz slams Aussies for 97

LAHORE, Pakistan, Sept. 6. (Reuters): Ejaz Ahmed hammered a warning to Australia with a muscular 97 off 98 balls as he led the Pakistan Patron's XI to a first innings total of 246 on the second day of their three-day match against the touring team. Middle-order batsman Ejaz hit three sixes off leg-spinner Peter Sleep and a total of 16 fours as the Patron's XI replied to Australia's first innings total of 317 for three declared.

At the close, Australia were 57 for one in their second innings, a lead of 128.

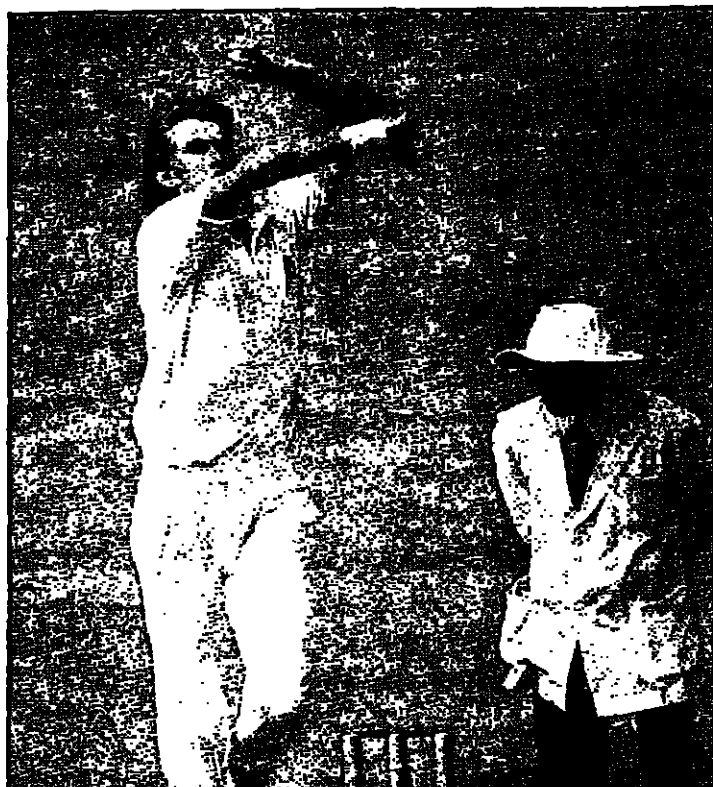
Weather

Australian captain Allan Border retired to the dressing-room with a bad headache, apparently brought on by the hot, sticky weather and the after-effects of a 30-hour journey from Brisbane.

The game was brought forward one day to avoid playing on the death anniversary of Pakistani state founder Mohammad Ali Jinnah in the second match. This meant the Australians arrived on Sunday and went straight into their first fixture yesterday.

South Australian Sleep and fellow spinner Peter Taylor had the best of the bowling with four and three wickets apiece, while paceman Bruce Reid cleaned up the tail.

Sleep, Australia's answer to Pakistan's legendary Abdul Qadir, was among the wickets in his first over when he trapped opener Mo'in-ul-Atiq before for 32 with his last delivery. Sleep then had Aamir Sohail



Reid: cleaned up the tail

caught at the wicket for 29 before his duel with Ejaz spoiled his figures.

But Sleep had the consolation of halting the big-hitting Pakistani three short of his century when he took a gentle return catch off a slower delivery.

The rest of the Patron's batsmen struggled. Bowler Hafiz

Shahid was the second highest scorer on 34 not out.

Australia turned the batting order upside down in their second innings. Mike Veletta opened with Steve Waugh, who was out leg before to Mohsin Kamal for 15. At the close, Veletta was on 26 and Sleep on 16.

Scoreboard

AUSTRALIANS first innings (overnight 317 for three)
D. Boon c Sajjad Akbar b Mohsin. 76
G. Marsh c Mo'in-ul-Atiq b Nadeem. 136
M. Veletta run out. 2
A. Border not out. 66
A. Border not out. 21
Extras (b-4 lb-6 nb-6). 16
Total (for three wickets, declared) 317
Fall of wickets: 1-138 2-160 3-269
Did not bat: S. Waugh, P. Taylor, P. Sleep, I. Healy, B. Reid, C. McDermott.

Bowling: Mohsin Kamal 16-1-57-1, Hafiz Shahid 7-0-49-0, Sajjad Akbar 19-3-55-0, Nadeem Ghauri 30-6-93-1, Aamir Sohail 5-1-16-0, Abdul Qadir 6-1-29-0, Asif Mujtaba 1-0-8-0.

PAKISTAN PATRON'S XI first innings

Rizwan-az-Zaman c Marsh b Reid 10
Mo'in-ul-Atiq lbw b Sleep. 32
Aamir Sohail c Healy b Sleep. 29
Ejaz Ahmed c and b Sleep. 97
Asif Mujtaba c Marsh b Taylor. 4
Ashraf Ali c and b Taylor. 0
Sajjad Akbar c Boon b Taylor. 29
Abdul Qadir c Taylor b Sleep. 0
Hafiz Shahid not out. 34
Mohsin Kamal c Waugh b Reid. 1
Nadeem Ghauri c Marsh b Reid. 10
Extras (lb-2 w-2 nb-6). 10
Total. 246
Fall of wickets: 1-25 2-54 3-89 4-94 5-110 6-194 7-198 8-235 9-240

Bowling: McDermott 12-2-49-0, Reid 11-5-1-46-3, Waugh 12-5-41-0, Sleep 15-6-65-4, Taylor 13-5-43-3.

AUSTRALIA second innings

M. Veletta not out. 26
S. Waugh lbw b Mohsin Kamal. 15
P. Sleep not out. 16
Extras. 0
Total (for one wicket). 57 - close
Fall of wicket: 1-23

Bowling to date: Mohsin Kamal 5-1-14-1, Hafiz Shahid 4-0-23-0, Sajjad Akbar 4-1-15-0, Nadeem Ghauri 3-2-4-0, Aamir Sohail 1-0-1-0.

Robson axes Euro-failures

LONDON, Sept. 6. (Reuters): England soccer manager Bobby Robson left out nine members of his European Championship squad today when he named his squad for a friendly international against Denmark at Wembley on September 14.

But he included Barcelona striker Gary Lineker despite the fact he has yet to recover full fitness after suffering hepatitis. Robson omitted defenders Kenny Sansom, Mark Wright, Dave Watson and Viv Anderson and midfielders Glenn Hoddle, Trevor Steven and Peter Reid. Midfielder Steve McMahon and striker Mark Hateley are injured.

The newcomers to the

England squad included Arsenal midfielder Michael Thomas, Paul Davis and David Rocastle, Tottenham midfielder Paul Gascoigne, defender Des Walker of Nottingham Forest and Sheffield Wednesday full-back Mel Sterland.

Stalwart defender Terry Butcher is recalled after a broken leg along with left-back Stuart Pearce and strikers Tony Cottee and Mick Harford.

Squad

Goalkeepers — Peter Shilton (Derby), Chris Woods (Glasgow Rangers), David Seaman (QPR).
Defenders — Mel Sterland (Sheff Wednesday), Gary

Stevens (Glasgow Rangers), Tony Dorigo (Chelsea), Stuart Pearce (Nottingham Forest), Tony Adams (Arsenal), Terry Butcher (Glasgow Rangers), Des Walker (Nottingham Forest), Gary Pallister (Middlesbrough).

Midfielders — Bryan Robson (Manchester United), Neil Webb (Nottingham Forest), Paul Davis, Michael Thomas, David Rocastle (all Arsenal), Paul Gascoigne (Tottenham).

Forwards — Chris Waddle (Tottenham), Tony Cottee (Everton), Gary Lineker (Barcelona), Peter Beardsley (Liverpool), John Barnes (Liverpool), Mick Harford (Luton).

UEFA appeals for good conduct

BERN, Switzerland, Sept. 6. (AP): UEFA, Europe's soccer authority, appealed today for violence-free conduct by fans and players in the new season of continental club competition starting tomorrow.

A UEFA statement also urged local organizers and national authorities to co-operate in guaranteeing security at matches counting for the three competitions — the Champions', Cup Winners' and UEFA Cups.

UEFA expressed hope that the 1988-89 season will bring "exciting moments in sportsmanlike surroundings" for participants and spectators.

Zavarov aims to keep playing in his own style

MOSCOW, Sept. 6. (Reuters): Soviet international midfielder Alexander Zavarov, bought by Italy's Juventus from Dynamo Kiev for \$5 million, said in an interview today that he is not going to try to be another Michel Platini.

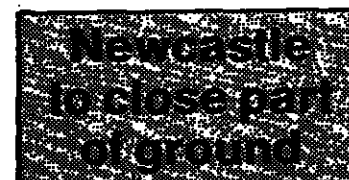
Zavarov, 28, who has the unenviable task of stepping into the Frenchman's boots in Turin, told the newspaper Trud he was going to keep playing in his own style.

"Everyone expects me to play Platini's role," he said before leaving for Italy. "But any copy,

even an ideal one, is always worse than the original.

Zavarov is the third Soviet player to sign a contract with a foreign club in the past year. A fourth, national goalkeeper Rinat Dasayev, has been wooed by Spain's Seville and West Germany's Hamburg.

Zavarov, who helped the Soviet Union reach the European Championship final in West Germany in June, said he hoped to come back to Kiev when his contract expires on June 30, 1991.



New Zealand set to face Stars and Stripes in unequal dogfight

LONDON, Sept. 6. (Reuters): English First Division club Newcastle will close part of their ground for their next home match after fans threw objects at a Tottenham player during last Saturday's League game, the club said yesterday.

England winger Chris Waddle, who used to play for Newcastle, was pelted with coins, rocks and chocolate bars as he prepared to take a corner during the 2-2 draw.

Newcastle could face disciplinary action from the English Football Association over the incidents which held up the game for one minute.

Hostile

The return of Waddle and Tottenham's new signing Paul Gascoigne — known to have a fondness for chocolate bars — produced a hostile reaction from some Newcastle supporters.

Club officials said missiles had been thrown from a corner of the ground which would be closed for the next home match against Norwich on September 17.

"The club wish to make it plain that it will not tolerate anti-social behaviour in the ground," Newcastle secretary Russell Cushing said. "If we are satisfied that any person has thrown objects on to or towards the pitch they will be banned from the ground."



Parachutists descend into the Olympic stadium in Seoul yesterday during rehearsals for the opening ceremony for the Summer Olympic Games which begin on Sept 17. (Reuters wirephoto)

New Zealand set to face Stars and Stripes in unequal dogfight

SAN DIEGO, Sept. 6. (Reuters): The greatest mismatch in 137 years of America's Cup yachting finally hits the water tomorrow after a year-long court battle.

New Zealand, at 133 feet the largest America's Cup yacht in 50 years, will challenge the nimble 60-foot catamaran, Stars and Stripes. Barring miracles New Zealand will lose handsomely.

"The difference in performance is so great as to make a nonsense of the concept of a reasonably equitable sporting competition," said San Francisco yacht designer Gary Mull.

Effort

But fairness is not high among the San Diego Yacht Club's priorities in its effort to hold on to the trophy only 19 months after skipper Dennis Conner retrieved it from Australia.

Conner's loss in 1983 to Alan Bond's Australia II was the first victory for a foreign challenger since 1851 and San Diego is not prepared to see the Cup leave the United States again.

Michael Fay, boss of the New Zealand Mercury Bay Boating Club syndicate, launched his cunning challenge under an obscure clause of the century-old deed of gift covering the trophy. But it provoked an equally wily defence.

"For the first time in the history of the America's Cup, we were in the position of defending against an unfriendly challenge," said Malin Burnham, president of the Sail America defence.

"We decided that our best course of action to an unorthodox challenge was an unorthodox defence," he added. "It's degenerated into some kind of dogfight."

Other Sail America officials are more strident in condemning Fay's disruption of their plan for a 1991 international regatta in the 12-metre class yachts used since 1958.

"We are going to whip him," Sail America backer Bill Packer told Reuters. "We are not going to let him get away with this."

Packer is one of 10 millionaires who funded the New York Yacht Club's unsuccessful attempt to win the Cup from Australia and who have now pitched in behind Conner.

"They think we are party-spoilers but I don't think they have the long-term interests of the Cup at heart," Fay said. "Winning the Cup only gives you the right to defend, not to hold on to it forever. It's not meant to be a benefit concert for San Diego."

If, as is almost inevitable, Conner's sleek wing-masted cat and its nine-man crew crush New Zealand in tomorrow's race and again on Friday to win the best-of-three series, Fay has pledged to return to the New York Supreme Court.

Judge Carmen Ciparick forced San Diego to accept Fay's challenge but stopped short of agreeing to Fay's contention that the deed and the intent of its drafters precluded an unfair meeting of a catamaran and a huge sloop.

Ciparick told the parties to settle their differences on the water and if necessary go back to the court, which is the sole legal interpreter of the deed.

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Indian parties to petition Rajiv against Gooch

NEW DELHI, Sept. 6. (Reuters): Anti-apartheid campaigners present a petition signed by India's political parties to Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi asking him to bar Graham Gooch from leading England's cricket tour, officials said yesterday.

The officials, who asked to be identified, said the petition organisers expected it to be ready for presentation to Rajiv this evening or tomorrow.

They said it was being organised by Anand Sharma, a member of Rajiv's Congress (I) party and chairman of the World Youth Action against Apartheid.

Sharma has been the most vocal campaigner against accepting Gooch as England captain on the 11-week tour, due to start in December, because of the cricketer's links with South Africa.

Gooch has said he broke a contract to play in South Africa to accept the England job.

Rebel

Gooch was already on a United Nations sports blacklist because he led a rebel tour of South Africa in 1982. He was barred from international cricket for three years after the tour.

Immediately after Gooch's appointment, the Indian cricket establishment appeared ready to accept the English Test and County Cricket Board's (CCB) argument that he had been allowed to play for England in last year's World Cup in India and had not been to South Africa since.

But Sharma said that by signing a contract to play for the Western Province team in South Africa's season, Gooch had forfeited Indian forgiveness for the 1982 rebel tour.

His argument is gaining ground. The Nawab of Pataudi, one of India's cricketer's elder statesmen, said on Sunday that it might be best for the tour to be postponed until the problem of how to deal with players who went to South Africa was sorted out.

The officials said Rajiv would refer the petition to the Ministry of External Affairs which would have to decide whether to issue a visa to Gooch.

Olympic gold medallist dies

SYDNEY, Australia, Sept. 6. (AP): Sir William Northam, the oldest Australian to win an Olympic gold medal and the first to win a gold in yachting, died at age 82; it was announced today.

The Daily Telegraph paid tribute to Northam, or Bill as he was known, calling him a "24-carat golden oldie."

Northam, who would have been 83 on Sept. 28, died over the weekend after a long illness. The cause of death was not announced.

RESULTS of the Regatta, Prince of Wales Bridge Club held on Sunday:

1. Ezzeldin & Sherin Bayoumi
2. Dhruva Mukerjee & Stanley Dwyer
3. Rita Casacchini & Aditya Thakur



The incredible squad with other officials.

Incredible XI beat BOC to retain title

INCREDIBLE XI won the United Goans Football Tournament for the second consecutive time after beating Boys Own Club (BOC) 5-4 in a penalty shootout.

The match was a closely-fought affair with both sides trying to gain control. Incredible dominated the fast game through attacks by Redu and Jovito but the BOC defence line stood firm

and thwarted all their rival's attempts to score.

BOC's Joe, assisted by Mickey and Agnelo, tried his best to take his team to victory but failed to score.

As the match ended goalless after the normal time, both the teams went into the tie-breaker. Incredible found their mark with all their five shots to take the

trophy while BOC missed one. Peter Santimano took the Man of the Match award. Joe Lobo was voted Outstanding Player of the Tournament while the Best Disciplined Team trophy went to Goa Maroons.

The prizes were presented to the winners and runners-up by P.P. Nair, general manager of Gharabally Ltd.

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